FBIS DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Latin America

Vol VI No 208 *28 October 1981*

INTER-AMERICAN

Science, Technology Conference Opens in La Paz A 1
Uniformed Police Conference Opens in Chile A 1

BOLIVIA

'Agitation Campaign' Against Government Noted C 1
Rico Toro Denies Intent To Replace President C 1
[PRESENCIA 13 Oct]
Foreign Minister's Car Fired On, Minister Unhurt C 2
Former President Garcia Meza Returns to La Paz C 2
Episcopal Conference Defends Human Rights C 2
Huanuni Miners Call Strike for Union Rights C 2
Venezuelan Intelligence Development Minister Visit C 3
Minister's Departure C 3

BRAZIL

Figueiredo Returns to Brasilia From Cleveland D 1
Chamber of Deputies Turns Down one Electoral Bill D 1
[FOLHA DE SAO PAULO 23 Oct]
Chaves Reaction to Defeat D 1
[O GLOBO 23 Oct]
Mexican Agriculture Minister on Official Visit D 1
USSR To Purchase Bauxite Ore, Sell Equipment D 2
[JORNAL DO BRASIL 25 Oct]
Wood Alcohol Plant Financing D 2
[O GLOBO 24 Oct]

CENTRAL AMERICA

EL SALVADOR

FMLN Cmdr Villalobos' Lecture at Military School P 1
[Radio Venceremos]
Cmdr Villalobos Announces PRS Party Plenum P 6
[Radio Venceremos]
Reportage on Recent Guerrilla Activities P 8
4 Bombs in San Salvador P 8
[DIARIO LATINO 23 Oct]
Francisco Sanchez Front P 8
[Radio Venceremos]
Soldiers Attacked in Morazan P 9
[Radio Venceremos]
Briefs: New Danish Ambassador P 9

GUATEMALA

President Denies Plan To Unify Area Armies P 10
[EL IMPARCIAL 17 Oct]
Chief of Staff Terms State of Siege 'Opportune' P 10
[PRENSA LIBRE 22 Oct]
Interior Minister Comments P 11
Popular Democratic Front Proclaims Candidates P 11
Briefs: Papal Nuncio P 11

NICARAGUA

Tinoco Replies to Charges by U.S. Official P 11
Costa Rican Government Returns Hijacked Airplane P 12
Carlos Nunez Calls for Changes in News Media Law P 12
[EL NUEVO DIARIO 20 Oct]
Government Creates Physical Protection Corps P 13
[BARRICADA 3 Oct]
Pedro Cuadra Appointed Acting COSEP President P 14
Police Block Meeting P 15
Costa Rican Coast Guard Arrests Nicaraguan P 15
Agreement Eliminates Visas To Visit Cuba P 15

CUBA

Leaders, Visitors Speak to CDR Congress Q 1
Castro Speech Q 1
Valdes Address Q 21
Machado Ventura, Perez Herrero Addresses Q 21
Espin, Veiga Addresses Q 22
Tomas Borge Speech Q 22
Awards Ceremony Q 24

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY CONFERENCE OPENS IN LA PAZ

PY210104 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1902 GMT 19 Oct 81

[Excerpt] La Paz, 19 Oct (LATIN-REUTER) -- Complaints on the unequal distribution of technology were made today at the opening of the sixth Conference on Science and Technology in Latin America and in the Caribbean. An appeal for the creation of a regional bloc with stronger negotiating power with regard to the industrialized countries was also made. The conference will last a week and it will be attended by about 300 delegates from Latin American and Caribbean countries; international agencies, European observers and special guests.

UNESCO's science and technology regional office director Gustavo Malek said in his inaugural speech that, in general, Latin American countries cannot be satisfied with the progress that has been made in those areas, and he claimed that "scientific and technological capacity is unequally distributed." A former Argentine education minister, Malek said that "countries with a high scientific and technological capacity hold an advantageous position in their relations with less-developed countries." Therefore, "the exchange between countries of different productive capacities cannot be carried out on strictly equal terms."

The conference is sponsored by UNESCO.

Bolivian Planning Minister Adolfo Linares said that the dependence of the countries in this region has turned "into one of the most significant limiting factors for the development of scientific and technological capacity."

UNIFORMED POLICE CONFERENCE OPENS IN CHILE

PY212017 Paris AFP in Spanish 0145 GMT 21 Oct 81

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 20 Oct (AFP) -- It was reported here today that the Colombian delegation attending the second South American Uniformed Police Congress will request the creation of a South American police association which will be an organization similar to Interpol. Brig Gen Enrique Gallegos Hernandez, a high-ranking Colombian national police official, noted that the objective of the new organization will be to exchange information, technological development, and agree on the different strategies to be used to combat cocaine and marijuana trafficking, and the smuggling of currency.

Regarding drugs, General Gallegos said that Colombia is not facing a problem of drug consumption per se, but one of trafficking, since Colombian territory and its coasts are frequently used for this purpose. He noted, however, that fortunately, this is disappearing. Moreover, Col Orlando Oscar Couto Vieira, chief of the Brazilian delegation to the congress, praised the activity carried out by the Chilean Carabinero Corps regarding the situation of abandoned minors and in their struggle against drug addiction.

The main objective of the congress that opened on Monday with the attendance of delegations from Brazil, Colombia, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, Venezuela and Chile, is to discuss to important issues: drug addiction and the problem of abandoned minors. The committees on abandoned minors and drug addiction ended their meetings after 10 hours of debate. The final agreements will be adopted on Friday once the delegations from the eight countries attending the congress discuss and study each of the issues on the agenda. The committee on abandoned children is presided over by Peruvian Civil Guard Lt Gen Cesar Carrera Grillo.

Chilean Carabineros Gen Luis Fontaine Manriquez discussed the Chilean theory for combating drugs and gave as an example on of the corps' special branches: the OS-7. The drug control and prevention department which, he said, enjoys great prestige at the continental level.

'AGITATION CAMPAIGN' AGAINST GOVERNMENT NOTED

PY262142 Paris AFP in Spanish 2359 GMT 21 Oct 81

[Text] La Paz, 21 Oct (AFP) -- Bolivian Information Minister Jaime Humerez Seleme said here today that there is the intention to create an environment of agitation in Bolivia and an unreal image of the government, in order to take advantage of the presence of delegates of the UN Human Rights Commission.

Humerez Seleme made this statement after a cabinet meeting at which he stressed that a large number of subversive pamphlets were distributed at universities and work places in the last few hours.

The minister said that one part of that campaign was an unjustifiable 24-hour strike called for on labor grounds by Huanuni miners.

Humerez added that people do not want to understand that the government headed by Gen Celso Torrelio Villa has nothing to do with events that happened in the country more than 1 year ago.

It was remarked that with these words the minister established that Torrelio Villa has no responsibility for the deaths of Socialist Party leader Marcelo Quiroga Santa Cruz and of eight leaders of the Movement of the Revolutionary Left (MIR) who died during President Garcia Meza's term.

The Bolivian Episcopal Conference and the Confederation of Private Businessmen are holding separate meetings simultaneously with the activities undertaken by the UN delegates. It has been reported that the bishops will analyze the country's social situation, while the businessmen will deal with economic issues.

In the meantime, the dollar exchange rate today reached 30 Bolivian pesos on the parallel market while the official exchange rate continued to be 25 pesos. This situation has produced a price increase of basic commodities, thus helping to create the agitated environment Minister Humerex referred to.

RICO TORO DENIES INTENT TO REPLACE PRESIDENT

PY240206 La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 13 Oct 81 p 9

[Text] Army military school Commander Col Faustino Rico Toro yesterday referred to the publication of reports in Mexico about his alleged intention of relieving President Torrelio Villa and thus succeeding him, blaming the reports on "an international conspiracy." The reports that were published in Mexico have even indicated that Colonel Rico Toro is reportedly "supported by some circles in Washington."

When asked about these reports, Rico Toro reiterated that "some time ago" he reported the existence of "an international conspiracy against the country." "Unfortunately," he went on "the response from abroad did not take long in coming." He added: "There is a people that judges, there is an individual conscience." He asserted: "I have always sided with the movements that have originated in the armed forces, but never behind individuals."

He said that the country's fate "is in the hands of the Bolivians and in the future the new generations will also have to act in keeping with the national interests." He added that the citizenry must act "on the basis of the three pillars upon which Bolivia has emerged into independent life: God, fatherland and honor, which must guide the steps of the future generation that will govern the country."

FOREIGN MINISTER'S CAR FIRED ON, MINISTER UNHURT

PY241821 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1800 GMT 24 Oct 81

[Text] La Paz, 24 Oct (LATIN-REUTER) -- Reliable sources have reported that an unidentified person fired several shots at the car of Bolivian Foreign Minister Gonzalo Romero. The same sources noted that Romero was not in the car at the time of the incident because he was in bed recovering from a sore throat [angina]. The incident took place at midnight on Thursday on an avenue that links downtown La Paz with the Miraflores residential neighborhood. According to these sources the car had been parked a few minutes before by the driver when a person carrying a gun jumped from another car, fired several shots and then immediately fled the scene of the incident. The sources added that the foreign minister's car was hit by at least two bullets. Official government sources, however, have not issued any statements in this regard.

FORMER PRESIDENT GARCIA MEZA RETURNS TO LA PAZ

PY241639 Paris AFP in Spanish 0314 GMT 24 Oct 81

[Text] La Paz, 23 Oct (AFP) -- Analysts reported here today that the arrival last night in La Paz of former President Luis Garcia Meza caused a wave of rumors and concern in this capital city. Garcia Meza, who governed Bolivia from 17 July 1980 to 3 August 1981, was in Taiwan for the last 4 weeks on an official visit. His return to Bolivia took place at a time when there are optimistic prospects that U.S.-Bolivian relations will be normalized, an objective that his government was unable to achieve. There is concern mainly because Garcia Meza's immediate plans are unknown.

EPISCOPAL CONFERENCE DEFENDS HUMAN RIGHTS

PY262017 Paris AFP in Spanish 1534 GMT 22 Oct 81

[Text] La Paz, 22 Oct (AFP) -- Spokesmen of the Bolivian Episcopal Conference said here today that their organization has decided to once again come out in defense of constitutional rights, civil liberties and the rights of political prisoners and those in exile.

Last night, at the conclusion of a meeting held in Cochabamba, in the center of the country, the Bolivian bishops warned that social peace and the well-being of the country will only be achieved by fully respecting human rights.

Msgr Alejandro Mestre, spokesman of the conference, said that the conference also expressed its deep concern over the economic situation the country is experiencing and demanded common efforts so that the Bolivian Government can get U.S. recognition. He said that the conference requested that the government authorize the operation of the closed Catholic radio stations Fides and Pio XII in addition to other stations which were closed after the 17 July 1980 coup. He also explained that the Episcopal Conference held a preparatory meeting of the general assembly to be held in Santa Cruz, in the eastern part of the country, from 24 to 28 November 1981.

HUANUNI MINERS CALL STRIKE FOR UNION RIGHTS

PY241917 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1818 GMT 24 Oct 81

[Text] La Paz, 24 Oct (LATIN-REUTER) -- The miners at the Huanuni tin deposits have called a 24-hour strike demanding the full enforcement of union rights in Bolivia, thus defying the recess of union activities which had been in effect for 15 months.

This decision was adopted during an assembly held on Thursday by the workers at this mining center located almost 240 km from La Paz. The miners also invited a UN Human Rights Commission delegation that is visiting Bolivia to visit the district.

A UN Human Rights Commission delegation headed by Uruguayan Hector Gross Espiell has been in Bolivia since last Tuesday investigating the real human rights situation in Bolivia.

In a communique that was published today by the press, the Huanuni miners state that the rights of Bolivian workers have been denied and ignored by the present government headed by Gen Celso Torrelio. The communique does not specify, however, when the strike is going to be held. The communique notes that the government had promised to lead the country in compliance with the law and by upholding all institutions but that these laudable goals are not being enforced by those who cooperate with the president. The communique adds that Torrelio's good intentions are questioned since restrictive measures enforced under the regime of Gen Luis Garcia Meza which were condemned by the public opinion are still in force. It notes that miners have promoted a sincere dialogue based on equal conditions with government officials but "the only answers we received were threats, intimidation and the closure of union offices."

They note that they have called a 24-hour strike to demand the enforcement of union rights in Bolivia. They also demand the support of other sectors, the reinstatement of workers who have been fired or are undergoing court proceedings and the return of refugees.

The UN delegation will visit Oruro on Monday and then it will visit the nearby mining districts, including Huanuni. The UN delegation will hold a meeting tomorrow afternoon in La Paz with all those persons and organizations that would like to submit alleged charges of human rights violations.

VENEZUELAN INTELLIGENCE DEVELOPMENT MINISTER VISIT

PY240232 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 0100 GMT 24 Oct 81

[Excerpt] Luis Alberto Machado, Venezuelan minister of state for intelligence development, stated that the Bolivian Government's purpose of guiding the country to a democratic system should have a deep impression on Venezuela. This was stated after a meeting held today with President Celso Torrelio Villa at Government Palace. The Venezuelan official pointed out the need to promote a closer relationship among the Latin American people in order to propel the integration mechanisms which will make their development possible. He said that during his meeting with the president they referred to several issues of common interest for the two peoples within the framework of the Andean subregional context.

Minister's Departure

PY261800 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 26 Oct 81

[Excerpt] Luis Alberto Macho, Venezuelan minister of state for intelligence development, returned yesterday to his country. He stated that during his stay he held talks with Bolivian authorities in which he stressed the need to strengthen the Andean pact and his country's undeniable democratic vocation.

FIGUEIREDO RETURNS TO BRASILIA FROM CLEVELAND

PY240115 Paris AFP in Spanish 0036 GMT 24 Oct 81

[Excerpts] Brasilia, 23 Oct (AFP) -- Brazilian President Gen Joao Baptista Figueiredo arrived at 2308 GMT tonight in this capital from the city of Cleveland, United States, where he underwent a series of medical examinations to determine whether he would have to undergo surgery.

Figueiredo returned to Brazil today, but he will not be able to resume his post for 30 days.

CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES TURNS DOWN ONE ELECTORAL BILL

PY261336 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 23 Oct 81 p 5

[Excerpt] Despite maneuvers by the Social Democratic Party [PDS] to approve the bill by letting the period allowed for its discussion lapse without voting on it, the opposition, with the support of 10 progovernment deputies, yesterday defeated by a 216-vote margin the application of the "introparty subgroups" [sublegendas] rule to the election of governors in 1982. The debates and balloting in congress lasted nearly 11 hours. The "intraparty subgroups" bill caused a real battle involving congressional regulations: six roll calls of deputies and two of senators were made. Only 6 hours of speeches was the merit of the "intraparty subgroups" rule discussed. Only Deputy Ricardo Fiuza, government bloc acting leader, stayed at the plenum on behalf of the PDS for the decisive balloting, thus trying to prevent the quorum necessary for rejection of the bill.

When the result of the last balloting was announced, the balconies occupied by hundreds of persons came alive with applause, confetti was thrown over the congressmen. The following progovernment deputies contributed to the final rejection of the bill in the Chamber (the Senate did not vote because the Chamber had already rejected the bill): Atie Jordan Curi and Francisco Leao of Sao Paulo; Jose Ribamar Machado of Maranhao; Vingt Rosado of Rio Grande do Norte; Antonio Dias of Minas Gerais; Lucio Cioni of Parana; Emidio Perondi of Rio Grande do Sul; Antonio Pontes of Amapa; and Claudio Philomeno and Haroldo Sanford of Ceara.

Chaves Reaction to Defeat

PY261413 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 23 Oct 81 p 4

[Excerpt] After acting President Aureliano Chaves left Planalto Palace last night, Press Adviser Joao Batista Correia announced that the chief of government was not worried over the possibility that the bills on social security and health care and the "intraparty subgroups" [sublegenda] for gubernatorial elections might be defeated in congress. Correia said: "The president's concern is that the democratic process be adhered to." In meetings with congressmen the president sensed yesterday the difficulties the government was facing in getting the two bills approved.

MEXICAN AGRICULTURE MINISTER ON OFFICIAL VISIT

PY270225 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 26 Oct 81

[Text] Today Brazil and Mexico carried out preliminary studies on a future agreement which will provide for the exchange of foodstuffs between the two countries. Mexican Agriculture Minister (Casio Luiseli Fernandez) [name and title as heard] arrived yesterday on a 5-day official visit to Brazil.

During the meeting he held with Agriculture Minister Amaury Stabile today they discussed the distribution and marketing of foodstuffs as well as information on irrigation projects which Mexico is carrying out within a program similar to the (?PROBASEAS) program.

USSR TO PURCHASE BAUXITE ORE, SELL EQUIPMENT

PY261556 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 25 Oct 81 p 39

[Excerpt] Director General of the Ministry of Foreign Trade [title as published] Nikolay Zinov'yev has signed with the Vale do Rio Doce Company a contract for the purchase of 100,000 tons of bauxite and has offered Brazil hydroelectric turbines and heavy industry technology. He did this during his visit to Rio de Janeiro, an occasion on which he also encouraged Mario Pacheco, president of the trading company MAPA, to open an office in Moscow.

The MAPA company sells Soviet oil byproducts to various countries, including the United States. According to its President Mario Pacheco, the Soviet state enterprise which markets oil, the SOYUZNEFTEEKSPORT, already operates in the West service stations for the sale of gasoline through subsidiaries -- in Belgium the service stations operate under the name Nafta. Zinov'yev also participated in the ceremony in which Vladislav Kurenkov took office as chief of the Soviet Union commercial mission in Brazil, replacing Georgy Visko.

In Pacheco's opinion, the Soviet market has great prospects for Brazilian firms, but the Brazilian Government must lend assistance in initial operations. A barrier to sales to the Soviet Union is the nearly $500 million trade-balance surplus in Brazil's favor. Pacheco added: "Minister Delfim Neto's visit to the Soviet Union was very positive, because it permitted us to evaluate our possibilities. However, it should be borne in mind that a large distance separates the two countries and that the Soviets can buy from nearer countries anything we can offer them. In fact the only product they buy from us because they cannot find it elsewhere is Oiticica oil [drying oil for paints and varnishes].

Wood Alcohol Plant Financing

PY261646 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 24 Oct 81 p 18

[Excerpt] Through the NEFTEKHIMPROMEKSPORT enterprise, the Soviet Union has granted $5.5-million (616.8 million cruzeiros) financing to the coke and wood alcohol company (COALBRA) for the purchase of Soviet equipment for the first wood alcohol plant being installed in Uberlandia, Minas Gerais.

The loan, which will cover 25 percent of the plant's equipment cost (estimated at $21.93 million), was guaranteed by the treasury through a resolution signed yesterday by Finance Minister Ernane Galveas. According to COALBRA's President Sergio Vieira da Motta, this is the first of a series of loans by the Soviet Union, which has offered to finance 25 percent of the cost of the first 15 wood alcohol plants to be installed in Brazil with Soviet technology, in accordance with the protocol signed last 29 April in Moscow.

The plant in Uberlandia should go on line in June 1983. The equipment which is being manufactured in the Soviet Union should be in Brazil by the second half of 1982. The loan approved yesterday will be paid back in 14 equal installments due every 6 months, to begin 18 months after the equipment has been delivered. The interest will only be 2.5 percent per 6-month period.

EL SALVADOR

FMLN: CMDR VILLALOBOS' LECTURE AT MILITARY SCHOOL

PA252057 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 1703 GMT 24 Oct 81

[Lecture delivered by Commander Joaquin Villalobos, secretary general of the Party of the Salvadoran Revolution and commander of the People's Revolutionary Army, at the (Rafael Antonio Arce Savala) Military School in "our territories controlled by the FMLN in Morazan Department"--recorded]

[Excerpts] I would like to congratulate you. Allow me to tell you that it is truly impressive to see the level of discipline you have achieved and the degree of military training you have. This is very important, especially because you have achieved this in a war situation and under a considerable amount of repression. You have achieved a good fighting spirit in the training. It is evident that you have taken great strides with the founding of this school. This school is a part of a great structure that was created [words indistinct]. There are (?more personnel) now; there are students, instructors, a principal; there are personnel for services, logistics and couriers; and this structure also exists throughout the territories where we have established political and military control.

Everything that we have accomplished, the production in collective farms, [word indistinct] school, our communications system, the military school, the supply, all of this, the establishment of a radio station--as one of the great political-military conquests--all these elements that are repeated in the length and breadth of the various fronts in Guazapa, Chalatenango, San Vicente--where production is also being organized--demonstrate the heroism and capacity of our people. It also shows something which is very important: that we are ready to build a society. We are not only ready to wage war but to build a society within a climate of peace. We are prepared to build the society of the poor, the oppressed. We are prepared to build a society of justice, democracy and peace.

Therefore, first of all, before I go into telling you about the situation, I want to congratulate you all. Perhaps I will not have the opportunity to speak to all of you because the work is very extensive. However, through you, I am trying to address those companeros involved in production, supply, and all those in the country's fronts.

The dictatorship has increased its forces to the maximum and its possibilities of repression in the search for and annihilation of the revolutionary forces have reached an extent never seen before. They have done this to such an extent that the dictatorship's forces have few possibilities--better said, they have almost no possibility--of continuing to operate and continuing to search for a way to destroy the revolutionary forces.

On 10 January, they chose to think that they had defeated us. This date was an experience. It constituted an important experience. Revolutionaries also learn when things don't work out exactly as we had wished. However, we did not lose on 10 January; we won and we won a lot, though not everything, of course. On 10 January we were able to strengthen our rearguard. We were able to put all our forces in [words indistinct].

The struggle in the cities was difficult: It was hard to develop ourselves militarily. No force and no army can be built based on men who carry out operations and have to hide the weapons in order to conceal themselves. That is the limitation of the urban guerrilla. We need a terrain, a territory where we could gather our forces. We needed to keep them permanently armed, train them everyday, keep them disciplined and make them permanent units which could act, gather, disperse and carry out maneuvers in order to annihilate the enemy forces. This is what 10 January taught us. All the necessary conditions were present there and we were able to politically and militarily guarantee extensive areas where we were to carry out all these activities I just told you about. We were to form this permanent force in that area.

You, who are undergoing training at this Commander (Rafael Antonio Arce Savala) School, are part of this great effort to form the permanent forces. Your mission is now to go from here to the task of annihilating the enemy forces.

We are now reaping the benefits of the creation of this school. Now each one of the fronts which created their schools and are developing their forces in Guazapa, San Vicente and Chalatenango are reaping them, based on the bloodshed by the companeros who fell in previous struggles to permit us to consolidate our rearguard. We are also benefiting from the weapons seized, the result of the heroism of our people who wanted their voices heard internationally. Our people also knew how to make great operational and conspiratorial efforts in order to obtain the weapons we have now and to recover weapons from the enemy. These are the great achievements we have made. After this, the enemy went on to a phase in which he kept attacking our position to try to wear us out, to prevent supplies from reaching us, to keep us under constant siege, to eliminate the people, to withdraw our bases of support, to frighten us, to provoke a migration, and to get more than 300,000 people--this many people have left FMLN-controlled areas--out of our territory.

The enemy tried to form and [word indistinct] his army. He formed the famous Atlacatl Brigade in order to annihilate our forces. These were the plans but the enemy has not been able to carry these plans out. The enemy has found in every place a great resistance which, in a war of attrition against us, has resulted in a war of attrition for him. This is an attrition, as the U.S. ambassador mentioned, of 1,300 casualties in 6 months. We had estimated the number of casualties at 1,000 but they said more than that, 1,300 casualties. This represents almost two battalions. This is a very high percentage for soldiers put out of combat. This represents more than 300 officers killed. This has been their cost for trying to annihilate our forces.

We, based on the principle of learning to fight by fighting, are forming chiefs, combatants and soldiers every day. Under the school of the political and military discipline we are also forming chiefs, instructors and political heads in all our areas under the great heroism that our people have. These past 6 months have left a favorable balance. We are facing an exhausted enemy, a government involved in a very deep crisis, the most serious crisis so far; and at the military level, we are entering into a phase in which we have been, we can say, surviving and getting ourselves organized. We have been preserving our forces and wearing the enemy forces out. We have not only been able to preserve our forces but have improved their quality. This development poses new plans which will require cooperation and the maximum use of our military and political capabilities in order to further wear out the enemy and approach more decisive phases of our victory.

What is our situation politically? As I already mentioned at the beginning of this lecture, the struggle is not only military, although it is a decisive aspect at this time. The other factors depend on what we do in the military sphere. However, the military struggle by itself will not give us victory. We need to make the right moves in the political and international spheres. For this reason, our struggle cannot only be led by an army. It must be led by a party, a revolutionary vanguard which includes a political-military strategy.

This struggle is not only of workers and peasants. The workers and the peasants have the most important role in this struggle. Part of their fundamental role is to become allies of the interests of other sectors which are also sectors akin to the revolution. The middle class, the professors, the students, the small businessmen, and many other sectors of the city and the rural sector, the small and medium-sized proprietors and peasants also play a role. It is also up to the revolutionary forces to play a role in the formation of a broad struggle front that permits the gathering of representatives of the progressive and democratic forces, including those that are within the present economic-social structure in what we may call the dominating sectors. There are also sectors there which must play a role together with the revolutionary forces in the struggle to establish a democratic government with broad participation, which is one of the main goals of our revolution in this period.

Regarding this, in the political sphere we must direct a policy toward the army, the church as an institution, the progressive sectors of private enterprise, the middle class and the professionals. The role of the vanguard consists precisely of gathering the largest number of forces possible in order to isolate the enemy, leave him alone, and have a greater possibility for victory. Therefore, the situation in the political sphere is very important. How then is all this work going at the present time? Well, as I was telling you, the situation of the junta, the alliance of the Christian Democratic Party [PDC] with the army, has reached one of the weakest points so far. A meeting has already been held between the oligarchy and the U.S. president tc decide how they will oust Duarte. What does Duarte's ousting mean to us? It represents a victory. Why? Because it would mean the placing of a clearly rightwing government in power. If they have not done this yet, it is because they are having problems in deciding who will replace Duarte. They are trying to decide who is less bad. This situation is very important for us. This present situation of the deterioration of the junta is very important for us. Why? Because it opens great important prospects so that our military struggle can develop all its possibilities and become a new source of hope for the formation of a new government of broad participation of all the revolutionary and democratic forces.

They are in a situation in which they feel they are going to be defeated. They feel their policy has gone to pieces. This means that they have very little possibility of succeeding, and so they are beginning to fight among themselves. They cannot find an alternative. They don't know what's left to do. The U.S. ambassador himself told them: Well, you have sustained 1,300 casualties, so don't fight among yourselves. Don't divide your forces because the enemy that is confronting you has proven to you that he can win this war, and if you start fighting among yourselves and divide yourselves, the enemy will surely beat you. Perhaps the U.S. ambassador did not say this but he probably thought it: We will have to intervene.

It is our duty to broaden our forces and fight to create an awareness. This involves rescuing even those honest sectors which may still exist within that party that is about to fall into the garbage can of history--the PDC. We must strive to rescue the very few honest individuals that party still has. By honest, I do not mean Duarte, but there must be some left. There are probably still some who believe that reforms are possible and that they can help the people.

It is the duty of the revolutionary forces to seek those who are still around who might increase our forces and push them in a single direction. This is the political strategy. For this, there are certain companeros who are struggling to make this war an adequate framework to make political use of our military victories, because when we are fighting, attacking our enemy, we are dividing and weakening him. We are making those who are perhaps confused want to break away and begin to think that we are a possibility. In other words, the military action provokes a situation which causes them to get out and look for alternatives. There must be, therefore, other companeros who are not armed and who are involved in the political struggle. They are also engaged in the organization of the masses and the unions. They are seeking a way to increase these forces. They are winning these forces and are pushing them in a single direction, in the same direction we are aiming our weapons. As I said, within all this political strategy, the great movements of the masses plays an important role. There would have never been an armed struggle without the movement of the masses. Without this movement, we never would have been able to form our camps and this school.

And there is another terrain--the international terrain. One of the main dangers we have now is that of intervention. The U.S. Government feels that this is its backyard, that these lands belong to it and are part of its sovereignty. They were part of it until we created an army. Now we only have to see. As you said in your song, if they don't get out of here they are going to have the same experience they had in Vietnam. These are not only words. We already have its pawns in checkmate. We have this junta and army cornered as some of our companeros said. It is up to them if they want to send their [word indistinct] and the U.S. Army.

When people who are determined to achieve peace and democracy and increase their awareness can organize production, military schools, children's school, supplies, shops to make explosives and commands, and centralize their communications only 3 months after the offensive on Guacamaya, there is nothing that can defeat them.

If they intervene, this will become a decisive struggle for Latin America. They have thought of applying three ways of intervention. The first one is more aid. This is already a weak point--more helicopters, more advisers, more mercenaries who will come and see what can be done for this corpse, which is the army, which has nothing left to do. This, as I was saying, does not have many possibilities. The army structure itself is very weak. Now they are looking for another possibility: the intervention by armies of the region, but this is also full of weaknesses. The Guatemalan revolutionary movement is making great progress at this time. Thus, the Guatemalan Army is incapable of reaching any agreement with the Central American armies, particularly the Salvadoran and Honduran Armies, in order to decide what actions should be taken in El Salvador.

The Nicaraguan revolution and the increased revolutionary struggle in El Salvador have also served as a model so that the Guatemalan revolutionary struggle could grow, and this struggle is at a very strong point right now. The Indian companeros, who had been very difficult to organize, have now joined the struggle in large numbers. There are guerrilla control zones in Guatemala too. The guerrillas are no longer limited to the forgotten mountains where nobody lives; they are now located where the people, the plantations and the peasants are. They are close to the people. This gives us great possibilities because the army's hands are tied.

The Honduran Army is also facing a situation in which the revolutionary forces are taking their first steps and in which the democratic forces have a great [word indistinct]. It can be said that the democratic sectors of the army are nonexistent. They exist [words indistinct]. Our work abroad includes ways to seek the creation of an awareness, a way to [word indistinct], and seek an agreement with the forces in Honduras in order to prevent that the army from being used in an aggression against the revolutionary forces. It is not that easy to use an army, especially in the case of Honduras, which is already witnessing the strengthening of the Sandinist revolution. Therefore, this has become a headache for the Americans who are also trying to get the Honduran Army ready not only to attack us and intervene in El Salvador, but to attack the Nicaraguan revolution and support the Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries.

We have not granted them a chance for intervention. Why? Because although we can fight against an intervention, we must be vigilant and make great efforts to stop it. Why? Because intervention means more deaths and more war. We want war, not for war's sake, but war to secure peace as we constantly say over and over. Therefore, the less painful the war, the better.

Consequently, we must display a mature political and international strategy in order to become successful. Therefore, we need support in the political sphere. We have many friendly governments at this time because of the great effort made by our companeros in this terrain. We have been recognized as the mature and intelligent party in this conflict. The senseless, [word indistinct], assassin and cruel parties which want war for war's sake are the junta, the army and the Americans.

Regarding the political struggle and the area of the alliances, the companeros must be politically clear in order to convince and attract other sectors.

Regarding the diplomatic struggle, obviously, we will not shoot or propose war right offhand. We must struggle to achieve peace based on international support and the recognition of our forces, and we have almost achieved this.

We are virtually recognized as a belligerent force throughout the world. What does this mean? This means that everybody recognizes the right and justness of our cause; the right our people have to arm themselves and to use these arms in order to reach their goals. This is what it means to be a belligerent force. We have almost achieved this.

When there was that famous discussion about the mediation or about the fact that we were negotiating, what was actually being done was recognizing us as a viable party. There were governments that recognized us as an army. They would say: We will mediate in this case of two parties that are fighting. Therefore, we recognize that the government is one of the parties and has an army and that the people are the other party and also have an army. Therefore, their rights must be respected. This is the struggle we have carried out in the international sphere and we have made great achievements.

Meanwhile, the junta is entering into a deep political crisis. They are fighting among ourselves. They want to oust Duarte. They are looking for Duarte's replacement. There are parts of the army who agree and others who disagree. There are democratic sectors in the army who are seeking a more just alternative. We will go out to meet them, to meet all those who favor justice and peace.

In addition to these conditions--the masses are rising, they are splitting and there are sectors which are becoming aware--at the international level the situation [words indistinct] the imperialism. It is not that easy to talk about intervention. In a few months, it will become harder to speak of intervention. The aggressive U.S. policy to deploy the neutron bombs, to arm itself and make atomic bombs to attack the progressive forces of the world; the policy to help South Africa and reactionary governments like Pinochet's, of backing the war in El Salvador and helping with arms and weapons; all of this is having its repercussions inside the United States. There are progressive and peace-loving forces in the United States. They will very soon voice their protest. The American people also [words indistinct] one of the largest demonstrations held in the past few years in the United States was held to protest the intervention in El Salvador. More than 50,000 persons participated in it. This took place when the intervention in El Salvador was the topic of the day. This demonstration was held in front of the Pentagon, which is something like the general staff of the U.S. Army. [as heard] Also, something that is important to us is that Salvadorans were there. Our companeros were there displaying their solidarity just as they do in Mexico, Costa Rica, Panama, France, Belgium, the United Kingdom and Venezuela. Our compatriots are there working hard to stop an intervention. There are companeros in the United States, too. The Salvadorans are being persecuted in the United States, in San Francisco, Los Angeles [words indistinct].

There are others, many of them, who want to come and fight here. They want to come here in order to be closer, to better feel the effects and achievements. There are areas of the struggle that are hard to imagine specific results. Sometimes the front line is where we all want to be, but if we don't divide the work among ourselves we will not win the war. If we do not have some to do this and others to do that, in various areas, we will not win the war. As I was saying, under these conditions and in these areas where we are working at the FMLN level, this guarantees that we will be victorious. The fact that they are beginning to have difficulties for an intervention, that the people are beginning to reactivate the masses in the city, and that we have developed militarily and they are weak--what does this mean? It means that we are approaching a new phase of victory. But we will not speed it up. We will take the necessary time and will implement adequate plans to advance according to circumstances. We will become involved in new military plans, new plans for the coordinated activities of our forces led by the FMLN and their vanguard. This will be done in all cases--political, military and international.

As I was saying in the beginning, we are led by a political strategy. It is the party, the political directorate, the coordinators of military action, international action, action of the masses and action of alliances which makes the people's victory possible.

Our struggle involves all these sectors. [Words indistinct] they have shown that they have a clear understanding of the importance of the military action. They are showing great ability. For this reason, you must make an effort to [word indistinct] and get to know all aspects of this war which you are fighting. Not knowing why you fight can affect morale in difficult moments. It is in these difficult moments when those who are truly with the revolution are tested. You do not only stand with the revolution when we are winning. For this reason, it is fundamental to raise political awareness on all fronts. Let everybody understand what we are doing and what is happening. In this way, we most certainly will win.

The companeros in charge of the masses must make great efforts to increase the awareness of all the people involved in the political, military and production tasks so that they can all be fully aware of the work that each does. The small contribution we all make in this struggle plays an important role within the context of a great mystique [mistica] that makes our slogans of free fatherland or death, fatherland or death we will win, united to fight until final victory and revolution or death, come true.

CMDR VILLALOBOS ANNOUNCES PRS PARTY PLENUM

PA242247 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 1703 GMT 24 Oct 81

[Statement by Joaquin Villalobos, secretary general of the Party of the Salvadoran Revolution (Partido de la Revolucion Salvadorena--PRS) and commander of the People's Revolutionary Army, ERP, on behalf of the PRS Political Commission and the ERP General Command]

[Text] Companeros militants, aspirants, collaborators and sympathizers of our PRS, ERP and our front of the masses, the 28 February People's Leagues:

Receive in the name of the PRS Political Commission and the ERP General Command a fraternal and revolutionary greeting.

Recently, in July, our organization held the eighth plenum of the central committee of our party. Our top body had not met for 2 years to evaluate the development and role of the organization in the process because of the revolutionary war. The past few months of the war have resulted in great advances for our people and also in great steps in the development of our revolutionary organization. In the last 6 months, we have gone through a period of lack of communication and our structures, capabilities, internal cohesion and will for unity were put to a test.

We have forged ahead in this trial and are now ready to give the maximum of our strength in the struggle against the enemy within the unity of our vanguard--the FMLN.

In the military sphere, together with the rest of the forces, we have consolidated the rearguard where our forces are now training, holding maneuvers, and are gathering or scattering in order to follow defensive and offensive plans. In a nutshell, our forces now have a territory that allows them to increase their military capability. Extensive areas of various departments in the republic are now in our hands. Little by little, the enemy is being reduced to controlling the cities where our heroic urban commandos and militias are harassing them, resulting in great activity. The army is already using all its power and it has been proven that it cannot defeat us.

For their part, the revolutionary forces are now starting to make better use of our forces and means. In 6 months there have been more than 1,300 army casualties, clear proof of the enemies' attrition. As a result of this attrition, the army has mobilized its reserves, retired officers and cadets and is sending to the firing line recruits who have only received 15 days of training. Everything at its disposal, such as, artillery, airborne, armored and even navy units have entered into combat.

The continued operation of Radio Venceremos from liberated territories in Morazan Department is another more-than-eloquent proof of the strong political and military control that we have in our rearguard. It is evident that the war will now enter into more offensive stages. It is also evident that the masses are already getting ready to open the way for the insurrectional struggle to conquer power. Our process, characterized by large support from the masses, has kept this support and our people, during the war, are organizing the production of corn, beans, [words indistinct], cattle, hemp, shoes, clothes, etc. in the controlled areas. Our people are also teaching others to read and write, founding military and political schools, organizing the communications network; in other words, they are showing that they are ready to build a new society.

In addition, our forces are busily working not only organizing the masses but struggling to expand the social forces which make up the great project of the people which should include all the progressive, democratic and revolutionary forces of the army, the private sector, the church, the professionals and many other sectors.

Regarding the international sphere, the heroism shown by our people has been felt in the most remote places on this earth. This prompts an international solidarity against intervention, thus conquering recognition for our vanguard, the FMLN, as a legitimate belligerent force which promotes the cause of peace, justice and democracy.

Regarding unity, we have fought very hard to stay away from hegemonism, sectarianism and everything that is opposite to the basic principle of revolutionary unity. In all these areas, we have applied the principle of the division of work and our structures, although not enough for our demands, have known how to perform exceptionally--in the military front, in the organization of the masses, in the political leadership, in the diplomatic struggle, in the solidarity, in the bases of support and in all the other work areas--and have given all their capacity and spirit of sacrifice to respond in the best way possible to the heroism demonstrated by our people.

In this way, we are trying to be loyal to the cause for which (Miguel Angel Gamez), (Edgar Salmeron), (Vilma Elena Contreras), (Johnny Bismark Julian), (Victor Manuel Quintanilla), (Maristela Serrano), (Jaime Edgardo Lopez) and many other heroes and combatants of our organizations and other sister organizations fell.

Thus, we are reciprocating the strong will to fight demonstrated by our companeros who are in prison such as our Commander (Lillian Mercedes Letona) and other heroic members of our central committee who are in jail or missing in action. We are reciprocating the strong will of many companeros who are in prison and are encouraging us with their example, urging us to continue in this difficult but glorious struggle.

This is also how we will continue marching along the path charted by Commander (Rafael Antonio Arce Savala) and all the other fighters of our organizations and other sister organizations who fell while trying to build a vanguard for our people at the most difficult moments, when victory was merely a remote dream and when very few decided to partake in the great task of retaking the flag of the predecessors of our revolutionary struggle: Farabundo Marti, Feliciano Ama and so many others.

This determination for the struggle must prevail and be continued expecting, from this effort, the satisfaction of a duty carried out well. We must retain simplicity, modesty, humbleness and austerity as values that help protect our forces and people from any mistake and deviation. Our central committee reiterated its approval of the line and principle of the FMLN, which we recognize as the sole vanguard of our people. It also reiterated its full obedience and respect to the unified revolutionary leadership and the general command of the FMLN. Unity and victory are indissolubly united and we will remain loyal to them until we consolidate the unity of all revolutionary forces in one.

Our political commission, general command and central committee have sought ways to stay close to the concerns of our rank and file in the political and army sectors despite the great problems and have tried to use criticism and self-criticism to discover our mistakes in order to guarantee a true revolutionary leadership within our party and within unity.

Companeros combatants and military chiefs of the urban and rural fronts, cadres of the political structure and the front of the masses, the 28 February People's Leagues, support rank and file, members involved in special tasks, persons in charge of production tasks, militants in charge of work abroad in the various areas: propaganda, solidarity, diplomatic tasks, and persons in charge of so many other areas of work abroad as well as in the war fronts:

Receive, on behalf of Commander Ana Guadalupe Martinez; Commander Ana Sonia Medina Arriola, Mariana; Commander Mercedes del Carmen Letona, Luisa; Commander (Claudio Rabingranat Armijo, Francisco); Commander Juan Ramon Medrano, Balta; Commander Jorge Melendez, Jonas; and Commander Joaquin Villalobos, members of the top leadership of our organization, a revolutionary greeting.

The struggles ahead will require from each of us the utmost sacrifice and a full determination to reach the final consequences. With the firm decision to fight for the Salvadoran revolution until succeeding or dying, united to fight until final victory, revolution or death, we will win.

REPORTAGE ON RECENT GUERRILLA ACTIVITIES

4 Bombs in San Salvador

PA260207 San Salvador DIARIO LATINO in Spanish 23 Oct 81 p 3

[Excerpt] Four powerful bombs placed by extremists exploded this morning in several areas of San Salvador, causing considerable damage to two banks, a shopping center, and to an office building. The bomb placed in the office building caused the greatest damage, affecting both the interior and the facade. This was a new terrorist awakening.

The four dynamite attacks took place at 0600, one after another. It was said that the explosions were heard within a radius of several km from the capital. Residents of Ilopango said that they heard several strong explosions.

One of the bombs exploded in the Beethoven Shopping Center on Paseo General Escalon, affecting the building and the following stores: Curacao, Almacen Gigante Europa, Libreria ABC, La Ponderosa and others nearby. Another bomb was placed at the Atlacatl Bank on Sierra Nevada Avenue in Colonia Miramonte, also causing considerable damage. The third explosion was in the Banco Salvadoreno branch office on Ruben Dario Street. The fourth and most powerful bomb was placed in the four-story Sol Building. The exterior wall is on the verge of collapsing and the damage to the interior was estimated at several thousand colones.

The authorities are guarding the areas to prevent looting.

Francisco Sanchez Front

PA260118 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 1200 GMT 24 Oct 81

[War report issued by the Francisco Sanchez eastern front, signed by Commander Juan Ramon Medrano and Jorge Melendez -- live relay]

[Text] On Saturday, 17 October at 0800, 105-mm and 60-mm mortar fire began against our positions on (El Mojon) Mountain, where the enemy tried to advance. Clashes occurred in (El Jobo), La Esperanza, Hoja de Sal and El Zapote. The enemy sustained seven casualties, including five dead and two wounded.

In the afternoon, the enemy began an attack with mortar fire, bombs and machineguns from helicopter gunships in order to evacuate its dead and wounded.

On Sunday, 18 October, at 0540, mortar fire was resumed against our positions in (El Chile), (Navidad) and (El Mojon) Mountains. At 1030, commandos of our forces attacked the enemy with rifles, homemade grenades and M-79 grenades at a distance of (?10) meters from the enemy's position at the La Esperanza farm. Our forces inflicted five casualties and recovered military supplies, including a belt of 60-mm mortars. Our forces withdrew gradually to retake their positions. When a helicopter arrived to pick up the enemy's dead, it was harassed with rifle fire and forced to withdraw. The enemy once again resorted to mortar fire to achieve its objective.

That same day at 0800 another commando group attacked the enemy forces south of El Chino Mountain with rifle fire and M-79 grenades. We were unable to determine the number of casualties inflicted on the enemy.

In the afternoon, mortar fire on (El Mojon) Mountain was resumed. The advance of the Atlacatl Battalion was once again prevented and our forces forced its disorderly retreat by attacking it with rifle and grenade fire.

In view of its inability to retake our positions, at 0700 on 19 October the enemy began heavy artillery fire from La Esperanza and Guadalupe. Despite this, we harassed a helicopter transporting war materiel.

At 1100, a reconaissance plane and helicopter overflew our lines at the same time that mortar fire continued. Fifteen minutes later, 4 Fouga Magister airplanes began dropping 250 and 500-pound bombs and opening fire with machineguns and 20-mm howitzers for 1 hour. [Words indistinct] and the enemy extended the siege toward our positions on (El Monito) and (El Gavilan) Hills with four companies. Heavy clashes occurred. Our forces were able to repel the enemy attack. We were unable to determine the number of casualties inflicted on the enemy.

In the afternoon, the enemy staged another attack and was able to take some positions on (El Gavilan) Hill. Our forces broke the siege and took up new positions.

That same day in the early evening, the forces of the oppressive army began their withdrawal. This withdrawal continued on Tuesday and Wednesday from the El Mono Mountain Range in Usulutan and San Miguel Departments.

The enemy used the following equipment: 60-mm mortars, 81-mm mortars, [word indistinct] cannons, 90-mm cannons, M-79 grenade launchers, G-3 and M-16 rifles, G-3 rifle grenades, helicopter gunships, reconaissance planes, coastguard vessels, armored vehicles, machineguns. The enemy force numbered 2,000 men. (?Casualties) inflicted on the enemy: 58; casualties of the FMLN: 3, 2 dead and 1 wounded.

Summary and result: As a result of the war planning and the development of the organization of our people, Colonel Garcia's dream of the final stretch has turned into a defeat. More than 2,000 men, a large amount of heavy artillery, more than 800 mortars, machinegunning, mass bombings, abuse of the civilian population and thousands of colones gone up in smoke have only helped one thing: the path of triumph for our people. On our part we have gained more military maneuver ability and counterattack capacity and military experience for our militias. We have gained more (?speed) in our people's movements, mass incorporation of the unpoliticized sectors of the zone and, above all, we showed our people and friendly peoples who have closely followed the battles the political-military capacity of the southern zone of the Francisco Sanchez front. We have shown our enemies that the organization and power of the Salvadoran people are growing, indicating that the day of their defeat is near.

United to fight until the final victory, revolution or death, we will win.
Francisco Sanchez eastern front command
Commander Juan Ramon Medrano, Balta; Commander Jorge Melendez, Jonah

Soldiers Attacked in Morazan

PA262140 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 1200 GMT 26 Oct 81

[War bulletin issued by the Francisco Sanchez eastern front -- live relay]

[Text] On Friday, 23 October, at 2130 FMLN forces took positions about 20 meters away from the enemy and surprised them with fire from our liberating guns. It was a fascist military position in the town of Villa del Rosario, in Morazan Department. We inflicted one casualty on the enemy. Our forces withdrew without any problems.

BRIEFS

NEW DANISH AMBASSADOR -- San Salvador, 20 Oct (ACAN-EFE) -- Poul Bent Sondergaard, the new Danish ambassador, presented his credentials to the Salvadoran junta today. [Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2358 GMT 20 Oct 81 PA]

GUATEMALA

PRESIDENT DENIES PLAN TO UNIFY AREA ARMIES

PA261926 Guatemala City EL IMPARCIAL in Spanish 17 Oct 81 pp 1, 7

[Text] The president, Gen Fernando Romeo Lucas Garcia, categorically denied the rumor that during his recent visit with Jose Napoleon Duarte, president of the revolutionary government junta of El Salvador, they discussed the possible unification of the Armies of Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras to form the so-called northern cone.

At no time was the subject discussed with President Duarte, President Lucas Garcia said. The Guatemalan president added that his visit to the sister country was to repay President Duarte's visit to Guatemala and in response to Duarte's invitation to visit El Salvador.

During my visit to the sister country, President Lucas said, we discussed matters related to the common economic problems faced by our countries, as well as some problems of immigration; but we never discussed forming a single front with the Armies of Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras.

Neither did we talk of such a unification during my meetings with the President of Honduras, Gen Policarpo Paz Garcia, added President Lucas Garcia. This is so because each country's army is well-prepared and trained according to its own style. The Guatemalan Army is also prepared and trained and has its own doctrine.

He also denied the possibility that Guatemala will sever diplomatic relations with the Nicaraguan Government. I am and continue to be in favor of mutual respect among governments and particularly among the governments of the region, he said, and just as I would not accept any government's intervention in Guatemala's internal affairs, my government will not permit any intervention in the internal affairs of other countries.

Therefore, President Lucas Garcia himself has denied the formation of a single front among the Armies of Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras. He has also denied any intention to sever diplomatic relations with the Sandinist government of Nicaragua. In our diplomatic mission in Managua, President Lucas Garcia said, there are several persons who have taken asylum and it would be unjust that on severing relations with that country, we would leave those who sought refuge and protection in our embassy in that country, to their own fate.

CHIEF OF STAFF TERMS STATE OF SIEGE 'OPPORTUNE'

PA260200 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 22 Oct 81 p 12

[Text] In my personal opinion, a state of siege would be necessary for the army to be able to control the communist subversion in a more effective manner. However, such a move could be misinterpreted by some political parties, and it would be up to the executive and legislative branches to make such a decision.

Brig Gen Manuel Benedicto Lucas Garcia, chief of staff of the army, made this statement to a PRENSA LIBRE newsman yesterday, and once again asked the Guatemalan people to cooperate as much as possible with the security forces to try to put an end to the wave of violence generated by subversion.

General Lucas analyzed the current situation in the country, above all the most recent terrorist attacks which have caused property damage and harmed honest and responsible citizens who have made sacrifices to try to improve their lifestyles.

The rebels, he continued, set off bombs and destroy private property without regard for the lives of honest citizens, and disrupt the peace that the Guatemalan people desperately yearn for.

He said that the army has been badgering the rebel groups and that these, fenced in and desperate, turn to the most despicable of all actions, terrorism, to try to instill fear in the people.

The people are now looking for a way to defend themselves from these actions and have been cooperating with the security forces. If that cooperation continues, he added, subversion is on its way to its grave.

Queried about the possibility of a state of siege because of the wave of terrorism, the ranking military chief said that from his personal viewpoint it would be opportune. However, he stressed, I am NOT [in boldface type] empowered to decree a state of siege.

Interior Minister Comments

PA270049 Guatemala City Domestic Service in Spanish 2030 GMT 26 Oct 81

[Text] While saying that he does not believe that there is a need to declare a state of siege in Guatemala, the government and interior minister pointed out that the Guatemalan security forces are continuing with their main objective of looking after national stability.

The ranking official also said that if a state of siege was declared, commercial, industrial and economic development might be affected; which is not the wish of the Guatemalan Government.

The security forces are maintaining special measures to protect the honest Guatemalans and are doing an outstanding job in controlling the subversive sectors, said the government and interior minister.

POPULAR DEMOCRATIC FRONT PROCLAIMS CANDIDATES

PA262021 Guatemala City Radio Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 26 Oct 81

[Excerpt] Yesterday, the Popular Democratic Front proclaimed Gen Anibal Guevara and Ramiro Ponce Monroy its candidates for the presidency and vice presidency of the republic, respectively. The proclamation ceremony was held at Real Theater, in zone 3 of this capital.

Representatives of the Revolutionary Party, the Democratic Institutional Party and the National Unity Front, which are also supporting Guevara and Ponce Monroy, attended the event.

BRIEFS

PAPAL NUNCIO -- The Holy See's new papal nuncio in this country, Msgr Dr Oriano Quilici, has presented his credentials to Foreign Minister Rafael Eduardo Castillo Valdez. [Guatemala City DIARIO DE CENTRO AMERICA in Spanish 15 Oct 81 p 1 PA]

NICARAGUA

TINOCO REPLIES TO CHARGES BY U.S. OFFICIAL

PA261550 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 26 Oct 81

[Text] Victor Hugo Tinoco, Nicaraguan deputy foreign minister, has told AGENCIA NUEVA NICARAGUA, ANN, that the United States is following the wrong policy by saying that Nicaragua has continued arms trafficking for the revolutionaries that are fighting against the Salvadoran Christian Democratic junta.

Tinoco was thus replying to statements made by Alan Romberg of the U.S. State Department. On 21 October Romberg said that Nicaragua is ignoring the Reagan administration's efforts to improve relations with this Central American country.

According to Tinoco, the daily shipment of weapons that the Reagan administration sends the Salvadoran junta is prolonging the genocide against the Salvadoran people and increasing the bloodshed, as well as closing the doors to a negotiated political solution, which is the only humane and viable solution for that country.

Tinoco categorically denied another Romberg charge that Nicaragua is curtailing freedom of speech and labor freedom. He said: Nicaragua is not a rose garden. It is a revolution that is trying to find its self-determination and form a political and economic system for the benefit of the majority; but this, in truth, bothers U.S. imperialists.

He added that the Sandinist revolution is experiencing several foreign pressures as well as military and diplomatic threats and that a recent propaganda campaign has been aimed at isolating the revolution.

Tinoco described this situation as an aggressive political offensive which is very serious at these moments when we are implementing an economic and social emergency law that is the result of the international crisis of capitalism. He said that we are facing this crisis in an organized way which is backed by all Nicaraguans.

To this crisis, he noted, we must add the destruction caused by the war of liberation, the looting of the Somozist government during a dictatorship that lasted more than 40 years and the results of the earthquake that destroyed Managua in 1972.

In addition, we are suffering the effects of these foreign aggressions because we are a free nation that chooses its friends and because we are a nonaligned nation. We must take into consideration that we are still burdened by the inheritance of a historical situation of exploitation, robbery and looting not only of our natural resources but of the efforts of our workers.

COSTA RICAN GOVERNMENT RETURNS HIJACKED AIRPLANE

PA270236 Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 2300 GMT 26 Oct 81

[Text] The Costa Rican newspaper LA NACION reports that last Sunday the government of that country returned the hijacked light aircraft, owned by the Nicaraguan Agrarian Reform Institute.

The aircraft, a twin-engine Aztec, registration YMDDQ, arrived 4 days ago in San Jose, Costa Rica piloted by two Nicaraguans.

The Nicaraguan Embassy in San Jose made all the arrangements and presented all the documentation for the return of the aircraft. An official identified as (Lopez Rivas) and a pilot of the Sandinist Air Force left for Managua on Sunday at 1915. Meanwhile, the Costa Rican Government is studying the request for asylum of the two Nicaraguan pilots.

CARLOS NUNEZ CALLS FOR CHANGES IN NEWS MEDIA LAW

PA261218 Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 20 Oct 81 pp 1, 10

[Text] Commander Carlos Nunez, president of the State Council and the man responsible for FSLN propaganda and political education, announced yesterday that the current communications media law "needs a change at this time, to defend the revolutionary state from its external and internal enemies."

Nunez condemned the old concept that permits private communications media to say whatever they want, forgetting, under this false and archaic premise, that they must fulfill a social function. He said that all states have the right to defend themselves and that this is true even in the most democratic countries of the world. He also urged the Union of Journalists of Nicaragua (UPN) to contribute to the alteration of the current law.

Speaking during the celebration of the second anniversary of the AGENCIA NUEVA NICARAGUA, ANN, Nunez stressed the great efforts being undertaken through that agency to counteract the tremendous and ignominious campaign of slander and lies that the big imperialist news agency monopolies are waging against the Nicaraguan revolution, a campaign in which well-known local media participate.

"We hope," he said, "that the workers of the news media will be fully aware that within the democratic, popular and anti-imperialistic framework of the revolution, an important struggle must be waged in defending, maintaining and developing the revolutionary positions established even before the triumph."

"These positions," he added, "face and will continue to face, as a counterweight, the reactionary positions that try to subjugate, reform or detain the revolutionary transformation by using their own news media."

He added that the revolution is simply not going to permit the media to be used, within the freedoms established in the country, to do and undo under the false premise that they are privately owned.

"The concept that must prevail," he said, "is that the media must fulfill a social function and that for this they must have a kind of orientation that will determine whether or not the people remain alienated."

"The daily struggle will intensify in future," he added, "and it must increase, because just as the revolution advances there will be equal attempts to detain it. In this sense," he said, "one of our limitations is that our current communications media law needs changing at this time. Our laws," he added, "cannot be simply ethical or merely declarations on violations. Instead, they must contain essential principles that will insure adequate use of the news media, on the basis of the interests of the revolutionary state we are building.

"Otherwise," he added, "there will be discussion of a false freedom of the press in which there will be many false and gross statements about letting the news media say whatever they please, on the basis of that misunderstood freedom."

He also said that every state has the right to defend itself and that our revolutionary state cannot permit the ideological obscurantism that exists under the expedient of private property in the media.

During the celebration of the second anniversary of ANN, Companero Carlos Garcia, ANN director, defined the news agency as "a weapon of ideological struggle at the service of the Nicaraguan people and their revolution, which is facing really monstrous and huge imperialist information monopolies that operate against free peoples and that deny the truth to their own peoples."

During the event, the agency paid homage to its best workers. The celebration was attended by the parents of martyr newswoman Aura Ortiz, whose name is carried by the agency's union of workers.

GOVERNMENT CREATES PHYSICAL PROTECTION CORPS

PA261708 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 3 Oct 81 p 12

[Text] A resolution from the interior minister, Commander of the Revolution Tomas Borge, has created the Physical Protection Corps [Cuerpo de Proteccion Fisica--CPF] for the purpose of guaranteeing the security and protection of the economic, industrial and service goals.

The same resolution disbands the present Surveillance and Watchmen Corps [Cuerpos de Vigilancia y Celadores] provided for by Article 492 of the police department regulations "because they are considered incapable of carrying out the task of guaranteeing the security and protection of the centers of production and service."

In the resolution issued on 30 September, the interior minister pointed out that the development of the country, as well as its reconstruction, depends in great measure on the economic, industrial and service goals, because these are the only ones capable of producing material goods that seek to satisfy the ever-growing needs of the people.

"The present organization of the Surveillance and Watchmen Corps is not in line with the needs of security and protection of the goals, since these are no longer the target of common criminals, but of the internal and foreign counterrevolutionaries who are sabotaging our economy," the document says.

The document also emphasizes that present circumstances demand that the revolution adopt special measures for its protection, also taking into consideration the fact that a large part of the "economic, industrial and service goals in our country are the property of the people."

Just like the members of the voluntary police, the CPF members will be "considered representatives of the authority and assistants in the administration of justice in fulfilling their mission as such or for reasons of the mission."

The resolution empowers the Sandinist police, in coordination and cooperation with the administrators of the centers that are currently being protected by the Surveillance and Wotchmen Corps, to proceed to revamp them and convert them to the CPF.

The administrators are not allowed to hire watchmen without proper authorization from the Sandinist police, "which is the branch responsible for the tasks of security and protection of the goals in the national territory."

It will be up to the Sandinist police general directorate to prepare the regulations of the CFP; the CFP members will have a twofold responsibility as they "are both workers and paramilitary men."

The interior minister's resolution says that, as workers, "they will abide by the labor laws and regulations just like the other workers in the center."

The resolution then adds that "as members of the CPF for the purpose of security and protection, they will be ruled by the dispositions of the Sandinist police."

PEDRO CUADRA APPOINTED ACTING COSEP PRESIDENT

PA260227 Paris AFP in Spanish 0328 GMT 23 Oct 81

[Text] Managua, 22 Oct (AFP) -- The Nicaraguan Higher Council of Private Enterprise, COSEP, today appointed Pedro Cuadra acting president, replacing Enrique Dreyfus, who has been under arrest since Wednesday, charged with violating "fundamental laws" of the Sandinist revolution.

COSEP held several meetings today to analyze the situation of Dreyfus and three other COSEP leaders who were arrested Wednesday morning after they signed a document which the government junta considers is "slanderous" and violates the economic emergency law and the public order and security law.

The business organization has hired lawyers Guillermo Vargas and Antonio Tijerino to try to obtain the release of those arrested. Writs for the protection of Dreyfus, Gilberto Cuadra, Enrique Bolanos and Benjamin Lanzas have already been submitted to the courts.

Meanwhile, just as he announced that he would last night, the public prosecutor is expected to file charges in the next few hours against those arrested. In addition to the 4 COSEP leaders, 24 more political and labor leaders of the Communist Party of Nicaragua have also been under arrest since yesterday, and face similar charges.

Police Block Meeting

PA262320 Paris AFP in Spanish 2232 GMT 26 Oct 81

[Text] Managua, 26 Oct (AFP) -- (?The police) today blocked leaders of the Higher Council of Private Enterprise [COSEP] from holding a meeting that had been called to discuss the nation's (?political) situation.

Capt Roger Cabezas, executive officer of the Managua Sandinist police, arrived at the Chamber of Commerce office a few minutes before the meeting was scheduled to begin to inform Manuel Bermudez, vice president of the Chamber of Commerce, that the meeting had been prohibited.

Captain Cabezas explained that the prohibition was based on the economic and social emergency law in effect across the nation. According to the police officer, the meeting was to discuss the case of four COSEP leaders being held since last Wednesday on charges of violating the same law.

They also were going to discuss the way some opposition political leaders had been blocked from departing on Sunday for various European countries after the immigration authorities retained their respective passports.

Another issue that was to have been discussed at the meeting that was not authorized was the attack on the home of Alfonso Robelo -- former member of the junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, president of the opposition Nicaraguan Democratic Movement and member of COSEP -- perpetrated by a group of unidentified persons early on Sunday morning and resulting in the destruction of two vehicles and damage to the home. The police announced that following yesterday's incidents, it will permanently guard Robelo's home.

COSTA RICAN COAST GUARD ARRESTS NICARAGUAN

PA262018 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1800 GMT 26 Oct 81

[Text] A Costa Rican Coast Guard boat captured a Nicaraguan fisherman and accused him of violating Costa Rica's territorial waters. Our Foreign Ministry issued a report today on the arrest of a Nicaraguan citizen by Costa Rican coast guardsmen.

According to a report furnished by the father of Orlando Mora Obando, a 41-year-old Nicaraguan, his son was arrested in Nicaraguan waters while fishing. Mora Obando, who was aboard El Vikingo, a small fishing boat he owns, was arrested by Costa Rican coast guardsmen and taken to port, charged with violating Costa Rican waters. It was learned that the Nicaraguan citizen was taken to Liberia, Costa Rica, where he is being held.

The Nicaraguan Embassy in Costa Rica is checking on the charges and reasons for this arrest with the Costa Rican authorities.

AGREEMENT ELIMINATES VISAS TO VISIT CUBA

PA252156 Managua International Service in Spanish 0030 GMT 25 Oct 81

[Text] According to a decree published in LA GACETA, the Nicaraguan official newspaper, the Governments of Nicaragua and Cuba have agreed to eliminate the visas for citizens of the two countries. Therefore, Nicaraguans who want to go to Cuba and the Cubans who want to visit Nicaragua will no longer have to fill visa requirements. This measure is aimed at increasing the solid ties of friendship and cooperation between Cuba and Nicaragua. This agreement was signed by the foreign ministers of the two countries in Havana on 27 January.

LEADERS, VISITORS ADDRESS CDR CONGRESS

Castro Speech

FL250330 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0206 GMT 25 Oct 81

[Speech by Fidel Castro at closing ceremony of the second congress of the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution at Havana's Karl Marx Theater--live]

[Text] A brief incidental matter: Do not be concerned if you see me walking with some difficulty. Though I think I was walking straight this time. In trying to follow instructions to fight sedentariness and obesity by engaging in sports, I suffered a small fracture of one of the toes of my right foot. That is why I could not attend the opening of the congress or be on hand to receive the bodies of the internationalist martyrs. The doctors are to blame because they told me I had to rest. But I have to be at the closing ceremony of the CDR congress, no matter what. They told me I had to rest. [applause] At least I am wearing shoes' I did not want to come here wearing slippers. My absence does not mean that my affection, gratitude and admiration for the CDR are any less. [applause]

Distinguished guests, dear party and government comrades, comrade delegates to the second CDR congress: Although I could not be present on the first day, I read a summary very carefully of the report presented by Comrade Armando Acosta. I feel the summary faithfully reflects the enormous amount of work done by the CDR in the past 4 years. This is nothing more than the continuation of the work of the CDR in the 21 years since they were founded. It also reflects the quality of the work. I believe it is only fair to recognize this in all its aspects.

I was able to see how the committees have continued to give top priority to the very important matter of revolutionary vigilance, that was, is and must be the foremost task of the CDR [applause] not only as concerns the struggle against the counterrevolution, which grows weaker and paler each day, although it still exists, but also in the struggle against the lumpen, the struggle against the antisocials. I feel that the figures on how robbery has declined as compared, for instance, with 1977 tell a good deal. The figures I read in the summary were 24 percent in 1980 and 40 percent in the first 7 months of 1981. This of course gives us an idea of the CDR work in doubling their revolutionary vigilance, and it also shows that the Interior Ministry is working better. [applause] And these figures also reflect that the Mariel housecleaning produced optimal results. [applause]

The importance of the political-ideological work of the committees is also extraordinary. They are great schools educating our masses. Patriotic-military work: An extraordinary effort in bringing the people closer to the armed forces and the Interior Ministry, in strengthening defense, in the vigilance of the coastline and in the organization of the territorial troops militias. The CDR have given considerable support to education, culture and sports, have contributed to economic and social development with their participation in thousands of projects, their support for the people's government, public health activities, population and housing census and so forth. The CDR's work in the fight against dengue, for instance, was outstanding. Their participation in sanitation activities made it possible for us to be so successful in the fight against that criminal disease undoubtedly introduced into our country by imperialism.

We are in a position to say today that there has been not one single proven case of dengue in our hospitals for the past 10 days. We are winning the battle and we will go on until we win it completely, and when we reach the point where we can officially declare the epidemic eradicated, we will then continue our fight against the vector, which can transmit not only this disease but also others.

The participation of the CDR in public health to prevent diseases, the polio campaigns and the blood drives, is invaluable. The overall contribution of this organization to the revolutionary process and the building of socialism in our country cannot be described in a few words.

Our organization now has almost 5.5 million members. This is 80 percent of our country's population. The existence of this organization, forged in the heat of the revolution and the struggle against internal and external enemies, has been an inspiration to other peoples who have gained their liberation in order to develop means of defense which are as necessary as the armed forces themselves. We can see how the organization has grown in quality with the acquisition of young members and how its ranks have grown by 400,000 new members in 4 years. I believe that the report, or rather the summary of that report, sums up everything and fully conveys the achievements of the organization in these past few years. We must say that our party, our revolution, our people are proud, confident and optimistic as regards their CDR. [applause]

I believe the imperialists will have to learn a lot about what a social force of this kind means. Lenin said that a revolution was worthwhile when it could defend itself. The truth is that our organization has demonstrated that it is capable of defending itself. [applause] And it is defending itself with powerful tools. Whatever our enemies say, no matter how much they hate and despise the Cuban example, I feel that our country, a few miles from the United States, has written, from a political point of view, one of the most brilliant pages of this century. [applause] Ninety miles from the United States, after almost 23 years of revolution, of 23 years of imperialist harassment, of more than 10 years of a ferocious economic blockade, our country has defended itself by observing Leninist principles, First, with its vanguard party [applause], its mass organizations [applause], that is, its trade unions, the CDR, the Federation of Cuban Women [applause], peasants, students, pioneers, its glorious Revolutionary Armed Forces [applause], its Interior Ministry [applause] and the closer ties between the party and the masses. [applause]

We believe that we have set a revolutionary example, a useful example for the international revolutionary movement because our country, I repeat, has carried out its revolution and has been able to defend it in difficult conditions 90 miles from the United States. [applause] And this in a country where imperialism used to dominate everything economically, politically, culturally and ideologically. They spent almost 60 years trying to break down the spirit of our nationhood and came to exert considerable influence in our country. The revolution brought down that influence and created a new consciousness, a truly new consciousness. Not only did it deepen and intensify the patriotic and nationalistic feelings of the people but also their revolutionary spirit, their socialist, solidarity, communist and internationalist consciousness. [applause] That is the great monument that the Cuban revolution has erected to the liberation, the struggle for liberation of the peoples. And we must keep this in mind now and in the future, in these and future years, which will undoubtedly be very difficult.

Before I go on with this topic, I want first to mention a recent event known by everyone that reflects how revolutionary ideas have taken hold among the people. I refer to the elections for the people's government organs. It is remarkable that after 5 years of experience, more than 97 percent of the voters took part in these second general elections to renew and constitute the organs of the people's government [applause] without any legal obligation to vote and without the revolution adopting the slightest measure against any citizen who did not vote. They participated in the election for delegates of electoral districts, who in turn elect practically all other organs' members, including the National Assembly, where more than half are precisely rank and file delegates, according to the regulations established by the revolution, delegates who are absolutely freely elected by the population, as you know, without the slightest interference from the party and without any recommendations from the party. It does not employ its tremendous strength in favor of any candidate; delegates who are nominated as candidates by the people and elected by the people.

I feel that the elections constitute a popular, democratic form on which the power of our state is based. There is no doubt that our citizens in each district pick their candidates from among those citizens whom they feel have the best qualifications. Thus when a district has six or five or four candidates--as in my district--and one reads the biographies, it is not easy to select whom to vote for. All of this without any display of ambition or politicking of any kind, which is what is traditional in the so-called bourgeois representative democracy. What happens in those so-called elections in some of the countries of this hemisphere? In many cases less than 30 percent of the population participates in the election. And they call that democracy.

Recently, the gentleman that [Nicaraguan Interior Minister] Tomas [Borge] was talking about, George Booch, or Boch, or Buche [laughter]--I really do not know how to say it--saw his Latin American tour as a triumphant tour. He went around saying that there had never been any elections in Cuba. This man knows nothing of the process by which our country's constitution was forged and established. He knows nothing of the people's government established by this democratic method more than 5 years ago. He knows nothing of the elections that have just been held. To him this is not an election. No way. He knows nothing about it because they are so ignorant that they know nothing, or almost nothing. [applause] We are amazed at the ease with which they utter a lie--or stupidity at best--of this kind. It turns out that in the United States, where the presidential election took place in recent months, only 52 percent of the U.S. voters went to the polls. Fifty-two percent. Not 60, 70, 80, 90, 95 or 97 percent.

As to this 97 percent in our case: In my district, for example, four people did not vote, but two of them were doing their military service and they voted in their own military district. One was abroad and another was someone whose name was on the list by mistake. He voted somewhere else. To all effects, 100 percent of those who were able to vote did. Even patients in hospitals voted. [applause]

Mr Reagan was elected by 16 percent of the U.S. voters. That is, 26 percent of the voters decided that this fascist group would govern the United States. And that's how they can create the situation that they are creating in the world. That's how they can lead the world into a nuclear catastrophe. And they call that democracy. It shows absolute, sovereign and infinite contempt for the democratic, popular forms that our people have chosen in exercise of their right to so choose. Who says we have to follow the bourgeois, imperialist, inefficient, hypocritical prescription?

Our people's political level, civic awareness, understanding and cooperation demonstrated in this election are worthy of praise and a source of satisfaction. We are not going to copy others, although it is always good to take into account the positive experiences of all revolutionary countries, nor is it our intention that our prescription, formula or system be applied in other countries. I do not know how the Nicaraguans will deal with that. It is their business, and they are sufficiently intelligent, imaginative and original to apply an adequate formula and the one which best suits their country. In reality this CDR congress is taking place at a time and phase of the revolution which is very special. It could be said that the world is living in one of its most difficult eras. I do not know if I should say of the most recent past or if I should say of all times. The present cannot be compared to any other time of mankind, beginning with the crucial and fundamental problem of peace. Peace today means something it did not mean at any other time in history. It is not the peace of the primitive communities when one clan fought against another, or a tribe against another, or as in the beginning of history when city-states fought against each other, or some peoples against others at a very local level. Peace now cannot have the same meaning it had in the Medieval age with respect to the struggles between feudal states, or the struggle between emerging states. The meaning it had in past centuries [is not the same as it has today], such as the wars between empires and kings of those ages. They would last 5, 10 and even 30 years. The history we studied spoke of the Hundred Years War. The meaning peace had at the beginning of this century, the meaning it had in 1939--when the results of wars began to be increasingly more catastrophic--[is not the same it has today]. The wars were beginning to be world wars, such as the one in 1914 and the second world war in 1939, which involved a large part of mankind.

Those were terrible wars, truly cruel, which resulted in tens of millions of persons killed. Peace today has another very different meaning because of the technological development of military means. It could be said that a war simply could lead not only to the deaths of thousands, or hundreds of thousands, or millions, or tens of millions, or hundreds of millions, but simply that a war could lead to the end of mankind.

There is talk about peace when the word war could mean the end, when the word war could mean the last war--but not the last war because men might have learned how to live in peace, but simply because men might have ceased to exist. That is the truly dramatic sense that the danger of war has today, and the vital sense of the word peace.

It is closely associated to the idea of humanity's survival. However, the dangers of war continue to increase. The nuclear arms already produced, those existing in the world and ready to be used, are more than sufficient to destroy mankind, not once but 10 times. This is what gave a special importance to the effort to control nuclear arms, to control the production of nuclear arms, to put a limit to the production of arms in the hope that at a given time an effort would be made to undertake the path of reducing existing arms and achieve at the end a disarmament policy.

In recent times the climate of peaceful coexistence, which was proposed by Lenin at the beginning of the October revolution, that climate has been gradually disappearing from the international sphere. By unilateral decision of the United States, the SALT II treaty was stopped in its tracks. In recent years imperialism has undertaken a policy of rearmament. They began by urging their NATO allies to increase their military budgets. They continued by proposing to deploy intermediate-range missiles in Europe, some 572 intermediate-range missiles. And they have now unleashed an unbelievable arms race, together with a bellicose and aggressive policy. All this has been done under the pretext of defense and security vis-a-vis an alleged Soviet expansionism. All this has been done under the pretext of reaching a balance of their forces with those of the Soviet Union, they say.

Since the Soviet Union emerged in the world, history notes and demonstrates how that country was attacked, first immediately after the October revolution with an invasion of its territory which lasted years in support of the counterrevolution and isolation. Later, the country was attacked by the fascist hordes in a war that resulted in 20 million killed and the destruction of a large part of the country. After the war, in which the Soviet Union participated as an ally of the rest of the countries in the fight against fascism, it found itself surrounded by strategic military bases and nuclear arms all over. The historic truth, the historic reality, demonstrates that the Soviet Union has always found itself in a position of inferiority vis-a-vis its enemies and that the country's policy had to be aimed, with all legitimacy and rights, at arming itself in order to defend its territory.

Who knows that better than our own people and our own revolution? We have been forced to devote great numbers of human resources and materials to the defense of the country. In reality, it can be said with great precision that a nuclear balance has been achieved in the world, a strategic balance. All other things are lies, fairy tales, stories. At times, when I chat with visitors who have said that the Soviets want to take over the world, I say to them: Look here, the world is a mountain of problems, and one has to be really insane to want it. [applause]

The imperialist superpowers are the ones that have wanted to take over and continue to persist on controlling the world in order to seize the raw materials and natural resources and then exploit its population. It is inconceivable that a socialist state, a socialist system, would attempt to seize the natural resources of other countries and exploit other peoples' work forces. That is absurd. It is totally contrary to the concept, the ideas of socialism. It is equally absurd to imagine socialist countries being guided by the same designs of capitalist countries. The socialist countries do not have transnational enterprises. They do not have investments in other countries.

All that belongs to capitalism and belongs to imperialism. If anyone would want to take over the world with designs of economic exploitation, it could only be imperialist countries. As we have said in other opportunities, if the socialist camp did not exist today, imperialism would have taken over the world again. It would have seized the oil wells, the iron mines, the energy resources. It would have seized everything. Doubtlessly it can be said that OPEC would not exist. Independent oil-producing countries would not exist. They would have done the same thing they did in past centuries.

Under the pretext of an alleged Soviet threat and expansionism, they have undertaken the most unbridled arms race known in history. Yankee imperialism, involved in a number of contradictions and problems, is drifting toward an increasingly more aggressive policy, a policy of threats, a policy of force. And more than ever before, it has proclaimed itself world gendarme.

If other imperialist governments were trying to maintain a facade, this government has unmasked itself and declared itself world gendarme. In recent days it shamelessly declared Saudi Arabia a Yankee protectorate. On the occasion of some debates in Congress dealing with the sale of spy planes to Saudi Arabia, the U.S. Government openly declared that what happened in Iran could not occur in Saudi Arabia, that the United States would not sit idly by in face of an internal change in Saudi Arabia. It simply declared it a protectorate.

The United States considers that any type of social revolutionary change in any country in the world is Soviet expansionism, and declares it would not allow it. Never has imperialism proclaimed itself world gendarme in such cynical and shameless terms, willing to prohibit and impede, and even intervene in any country in the world where a revolution takes place. All this is taking place together with its policy of rapprochement to the most repressive governments in Latin America and the most reactionary and repressive governments in the world. It declares it will not allow any type of social change, any revolutionary change in Central America, or in the Caribbean, or in Latin America, or in Africa, or in Asia or any place.

Recently, they have freed themselves of all restrictions with respect to military aid to Chile, and will renew their military aid to Chile and to all repressive governments of this hemisphere. They have strengthened their relations with South Africa, and it is a fact that they are maintaining close relations with South Africa. They have made public their strategic agreement with Israel. They have improvised colossal military maneuvers in the Near East after As-Sadat's death. They have undertaken an insane race, installing military bases in diverse areas of the world.

That is the essence of the policy of this new administration, which is different from previous ones for its manner of acting, for its aggressiveness, for its arrogance and for its warmongering spirit. From our viewpoint, imperialism knows there is a serious crisis situation in the world and is trying to prepare itself simply to solve the world's problems through force and as a gendarme state. As a result of this, it has undertaken the arms race.

This arms policy is being carried out in the United States on the backs of the people, but mainly on the backs of the poorest sectors of the U.S. people. Thus, according to reports in the U.S. press, more than 400,000 families with children and with low incomes will find that their government subsidies will be totally eliminated and another 250,000 families will be affected by reductions in such subsidies.

Some 875,000 families will not get the coupons they were getting from the government to buy food. Some 1.4 million families will see their coupon quotas for food seriously reduced. Some 22.5 million poor persons will be affected one way or another in the very few and costly medical services they were receiving through federal programs. Some 1 million unemployed workers will not receive unemployment compensation. Some 17.7 million school-age children will not have the possibility of receiving free lunches at schools, where some 270,000 public servants have lost their jobs because of the cessation of the school lunch program.

On another subject, the program of military outlays prepared by the present administration amounts to 225.7 billion dollars for 1982. This means that 29 percent of the total federal budget will be devoted to military spending. The program of new arms alone will amount to tens of billions of dollars. To give you an exact idea of this, it must be noted that the cost of one MX missile is approximately 25 million dollars. According to known figures, the cost of the system amounts to 34 billion. That of a B-1 bomber is 200 million and that of each Trident submarine is 1.5 billion. Currently they are spending 1 billion dollars experimenting in the technology of the antiradar bomber, the stealth aircraft. The cost of the lesser sophisticated weaponry, such as the XM tank, amounts to 1 million dollars each, and an F-15 aircraft costs 18 million dollars. In 1986 the military budget will reach 372.7 billion, and in that year it will constitute 35.2 percent of the total U.S. budget. Never before in history has there been such an arms race. If this militarist policy is not fascist, what is a fascist policy? These facts have to be of great concern to all mankind, because they reflect that imperialism has undertaken a path of force, of violence, of threat and of aggression, not only against the socialist community but against all peoples in the Third World.

Not even in the days of Hitler's Germany, I repeat, not even in the days of Hitler's Germany, was such an arms program undertaken. And what do they want those arms for? Not only of the nuclear type but also of the conventional type? Because the enormous cost of this arms race is not only determined by the strategic nuclear arms, but by a considerable increase of conventional weaponry, such as reactivating battleships, building more aircraft carriers and producing more landing equipment. In a word, the United States is preparing for an interventionist policy in the world.

It is trying to drag its allies into this policy, and they are resisting more and more, which is demonstrated above all in the European nations, where the movement favoring disarmament and peace is growing and staging demonstrations increasingly bigger and increasingly more energetic. This is related not only to the arms race but also to the project of deploying 572 nuclear missiles in Europe. This is very serious because with this they are trying to eliminate the strategic balance.

We cannot forget that the presence of 42 intermediate-range nuclear missiles in Cuba in 1962 almost provoked a nuclear war. This arms race forces the socialist countries to redouble their efforts in favor of coexistence and peace, but at the same time forces them to invest large quantities of resources to counter these imperialist attempts to establish their military superiority. These are the inevitable consequences of such policy. Thus we must be aware that the dangers to peace in the world and the dangers of war are increasing considerably, not only the dangers of local Yankee interventions but, in reality the dangers of a nuclear war. We must not forget this reality.

But next to this, the world finds itself in the midst of the greatest economic crisis of its entire history, because in the economy the same thing happens that happens in peace.

Today the world economy has a different connotation than it had in earlier centuries, in earlier eras or during the first half of this century. The problems faced by the world economy are absolutely new and very grave. In the first place there is an economic crisis in the Western capitalist world that has been worsening every year. And all of us--including the CDR, each citizen of this country, each worker, each peasant, each student, each housewife--will have no choice but to expand our knowledge about these aspects of the world's economy.

I decided not to bring many figures here, even though I was tempted to do so. I said, well, the CDR congress is not the congress of the Third World economists or the Interparliamentary meeting or the world congress of workers. Even though this is a topic of current interest and great consequence, I decided not to bring large amounts of data to illustrate the point. I talked about this subject extensively at the Interparliamentary conference and the material was published in the newspapers. I understand that party circles are studying it and, in my opinion, it should be studied extensively by all our people. [applause]

The capitalist economy has its laws. These were studies in depth by Marx, Engels and Lenin. Lenin studied and knew capitalism in its imperialist phase. Capitalism's cynical crises are known. Capitalism has faced problems of inflation in some periods and problems of recession in others. All of you have probably heard about the Great Depression that began in the United States in 1929 and lasted approximately 10 years. This was a worldwide crisis, during which many bankers, owners of enterprises, stockholders, speculators and others even went so far as to commit suicide. There was a wave of suicides because many of them were suddenly penniless. This Great Depression resulted in a large increase in unemployment in the United States, reaching 12 million at one point. This economic crisis of the 1930's affected everyone.

Frightened by these crises, which could lead to the end of the system at a given moment, the capitalists managed to devise various mechanisms to confront the crises, with an eye to the system's durability. However, they also stepped up colonial exploitation. They stepped up their exploitation of the Third World countries. Thus, after World War II the capitalist economy experienced a long period of increased production. However, this growth in production was fundamentally achieved on the basis of cheap energy; that is to say, oil costing $14 and $15 a ton.

Many European countries even abandoned coal mines and began buying this noble and cheap product called oil. I say "called" because it can hardly be found anywhere anymore and is becoming increasingly hard to get. The transnational companies owned virtually all the world's oilfields and imposed their conditions and their extraordinary earnings. They imposed oil prices to benefit an accelerated development of the Western capitalist countries' economies. Thus oil consumption doubled, tripled, quadrupled and quintupled after World War II.

Another factor in the increase in the Western capitalist countries' wealth--independent of the fact that they had large amounts of accumulated capital, that they had amassed all of the world's gold and that they had large financial resources and technological resources--another pillar of their economic development was unequal trade. In other words, they imposed their trade conditions on the Third World countries, the producers of raw materials. By virtue, of these conditions, if, for example, X tons of coffee, cocoa, iron, hemp, cashew nuts, cottonseed or whatever other products of the Third World countries were previously required to buy a truck; if a given amount was required 30 years ago, now three times that amount is required to buy that same truck. In other words, the Third World must deliver three times more products to pay for the equipment and machinery they import, for the semifinished products they import--three times more than they had to pay 30 years ago to buy the same product. This is what is termed the deterioration of trade relations and unequal trade. In a nutshell, the industrialized capitalist countries sell their products at increasingly higher prices and buy products from the Third World at increasingly cheaper prices.

The developed capitalist countries virtually monopolized all world finance. They controlled the international credit organizations and imposed their conditions on financing policies for the Third World. They became increasingly bigger creditors for the Third World, and the Third World had no choice but to become an increasingly bigger debtor. The world capitalist economy grew for several decades on the basis of this until the last few years, when, for the first time in the history of capitalism, a previously unknown kind of crisis emerged. This is inflation combined with economic recession; an uncontrollable increase in prices combined with a drop in growth rates, or even a drop in production. The capitalist world has now faced this problem for the first time.

No capitalist theoretician knows how they are going to get out of this situation. Several experiments have been tried. An example is the Pinochet experiment in Chile. He began to apply certain economic theories of a so-called Chicago school. This theory consisted of leaving thousands of Chileans jobless, increasing prices to very high levels, in order to fight inflation, and opening the country to the transnationals. Pinochet also applied restrictive measures--measures that can only be implemented under a fascist system--to such an extent that Chile, which was importing approximately 100 million [currency not specified] worth of meat from Argentina, began to export meat after 6 or 7 months, using the very simple fascist method of keeping the Chilean people from eating beef. Chile's public debt has increased to $15 billion, unemployment is rampant and the country has solved none of its problems but those of the rich and privileged sectors.

Another country that tried to seek a formula for solving these problems was the United Kingdom. It sought a formula by which to fight inflation and recession, and the only result is that inflation continues. In only 3 years of government by the distinguished Mrs Thatcher, unemployment has risen from 1.3 million to 3 million. This situation also affects the rest of the capitalist world, some parts more than others. However, in the NATO countries alone the unemployment figure amounts to 20 million.

Then Mr Reagan comes to the presidency and finds an annual inflation rate of approximately 11 percent and an economy in recession, which will not grow. And, becoming the true sorcerer's apprentice, he tries to figure out how he will manage to fight these two phenomena: inflation on one hand and recession on the other. In 1932 Roosevelt faced an economy in full recession, but there was no inflation then. He adopted measures drafted by some capitalist theoreticians for overcoming recession, and after about 10 years the Americans were indeed able to overcome it. But circumstances were different back then. The availability of oil and raw materials was unlimited. Therefore, they managed to get out of that situation.

Other countries--the other Western countries--have applied similar theories. These are the so-called Keynesian ideas, but since I am not a professor of economics and this is not a class on economics, but an attempt to explain some existing problems, I want to eliminate theoretical or technical terms. This administration has now abandoned all of these Roosevelt-era theories. Now they say that they are old and passe. They claim that all of this is a mistake and thus have decided to follow two schools of thought: one specializes in the struggle against inflation and is based on a review of the budget, social expenditures and a reduction of the money in circulation, while the other specializes in the struggle against recession and is based on a tax reduction, incentives for investments, etc. Mr Reagan has combined these two theories or these two capitalist economic schools under the illusion, I think, that the sorcerer's apprentice can overcome inflation and at the same time promote U.S. economic growth. To this he has added gigantic arms expenditures, when everyone knows that arms expenditures are inflationary; bombs can neither be eaten nor worn--you cannot eat or wear aircraft carriers, tanks and cannons. And all of those millions of men who are devoted to the armed services are not producing, but only consuming goods. According to economy experts, the arms race is inflationary.

Mr Reagan is trying to fight inflation, promote U.S. economic growth--which is intended to fight recession--and at the same time he is unleashing a gigantic arms buildup. Data that have been analyzed by certain scientific organizations reveal that for every $1 billion invested in military materiel, approximately 100,000 workers are not employed. In other words, this arms buildup policy inevitably increases inflation and unemployment. The United States already has approximately 8 million workers without jobs. To implement this policy, it has cruelly undertaken cuts in the budget, in public services and in social security, whose consequences I mentioned before; and all of this is added to a situation of world crisis and the debt of underdeveloped countries, which already amounts to $500 billion. This U.S. policy of monetary restrictions has brought, as a result, an extraordinary increase in interest rates for financial credits, reaching such an extreme that interest rates have risen to as much as 20 percent per annum.

What does this mean for the Third World countries? It means that any credit they obtain in the financing or refinancing of their foreign debt will have to be paid at much higher interest rates. In other words, this imperialist policy has seriously worsened the Third World countries' economic crisis. All of these situations are being discussed at international forums: the Nonaligned Movement, the United Nations and in various conferences.

You know of the efforts and suggestions that Cuba has made at international meetings in regard to these problems--mainly in the United Nations and again here at the Interparliamentary conference. The world is facing a very serious economic situation--both the developed capitalist world and the Third World--from which only a few countries can escape, because of the privilege they enjoy of selling their exported oil at a price that is 15 times what it was 10 years ago. This crisis also affects the socialist countries in an indirect way. In other words, this capitalist crisis, which acts on the economies of most of the Third World, also acts indirectly upon the socialist countries, which therefore face difficulties.

To this we must also add the regrettable situation in Poland, which has forced some socialist countries, particularly the USSR, to undertake great efforts to help that country. And we must add a year of apparently unfavorable weather for the USSR as well. But basically the crisis affects the developed capitalist countries in a very serious way, while affecting the Third World--that is, the underdeveloped countries--even more gravely and the socialist countries' economy indirectly.

These and other problems are being analyzed. The statistical and mathematical analysis of the world's natural resources, when compared to the growing population and to the problems of underdevelopment affecting most of mankind, forecasts a very difficult situation for the next 2 decades, for which no solution is in sight. There are other problems as well, associated with the entire policy of the developed capitalist countries, with dynamic industrial development, the only purpose of which is profit, guided by a capitalist philosophy. This creates very serious problems.

For example, there is the environmental issue: the phenomenon of increasing pollution of water and air, the problem of deforestation, the expansion of deserts, the contamination of potable water, uncontrolled population growth. All are creating a situation for mankind that is worrisome, difficult, and for which there is still no solution.

It has been suggested--in fact, we have suggested--that the solutions to these problems is only possible through major international cooperation. Neither the socialist nor capitalist countries by themselves can find a solution to these problems. That is why we have said at the United Nations that only a miracle or an effort at international cooperation, with the participation of all countries and peoples, can offer a reasonable and practical solution to the excruciating problems that mankind has ahead. But, again, how can we talk about international cooperation or hope to solve these problems when we have the cold war, the arms race and the tremendous increase in military spending, which is already higher than $500 billion a year?

There is no denying the fact that large portions of the resources assigned to arms should be used to solve the development problems of large sectors of the world. If these problems are not solved, the industrial capitalist countries will not be able to solve their own. It is necessary to have a climate of coexistence and peace. It is necessary to make an enormous effort at cooperation, if the world really wants to face and solve these problems. But nowhere do we see this spirit of cooperation. On the contrary, each day there are more signs of violence, cold war, the arms race and similar things on the horizon.

The Cancun meeting, where these problems were to be discussed and at which the Mexican Government and President Lopez Portillo made a great and noble effort [applause] to gather representatives of industrial, oil-producing and underdeveloped countries, just ended. As you know, Cuba relieved the Mexican Government of any possible compromise in regard to our participation in the conference, though we were supposed to participate, in accordance with the wish and intentions of the Mexican Government. Can you guess the reasons? There could be so many--self-sufficiency, arrogance, fury, anger or even fear. No, the indispensable and almighty lord, Mr Reagan, said that if Cuba were present he would not go. Everyone else could go. He said the USSR could be invited. There was no objection to having China attend. But for some strange reason, the only one that could not attend was Cuba, which has maintained a policy of willingness to discuss these problems, constantly defending the interests of the underdeveloped countries as a group at every international conference.

The imperialist gentleman said no Cuba; if Cuba participated, he would not attend. If the imperialist gentlemen did not attend, then the richest country in the world, the country with the largest number of transnational companies and the greatest amount of financial and technological resources, would not be represented and the party would be ruined. He threatened to ruin the party.

As dictated by logic, we did what we had to do. We told the Mexican president that we relieved his country of any commitment; that Cuba's presence should not serve as a pretext for the United States to use in shirking its commitments and that we declined to participate. In other words, we freed the Mexican Government from any commitment, because the alternative was either to hold the meeting without the United States or not to hold it at all, and what we were most interested in was that the conference be held; we wanted the problems to be discussed. It was not important for Cuba to participate, but for the problems to be discussed and resolved.

We adopted a similar attitude in regard to the upcoming UNCTAD conference, which was scheduled to be held in Havana in 1983, based on the wishes and support of most underdeveloped countries. The almighty and indispensable Mr Reagan once again said that the Yankee delegation would not come if it were held in Cuba. The haggling could have lasted a long time. We had reached certain agreements with the countries interested in UNCTAD, especially with the underdeveloped countries. The United States did everything possible to see another Latin American country emerge as a candidate, but none did. Their position was similar to the one they adopted at the time of the Security Council election.

They were bent on preventing the UNCTAD conference from being held in Cuba. Our position was similar to our position on Cancun. We did not want to appear to the peoples as an obstacle to the convocation of the UNCTAD conference or to see the UNCTAD conference held without the presence of the United States. Nor did we want its convocation in Cuba to serve as a pretext for the United States to refuse to participate. We also agreed to the postponement of the other UNCTAD conference, to be held in 1886 [as heard] in Latin America. Cuba hoped that it would be held in on that date. That is to say, out of respect and consideration for the countries that are interested in these conferences, in these talks, we declined to be seen as an obstacle to their convocation. Our purpose was not to place national interests or prestige above everything else but to make it possible for both conferences to be held.

However, several weeks earlier, Mr Reagan had already sounded the death knell for the Cancun conference, in his speeches at the IMF and the World Bank and in a recent speech in Philadelphia on 15 October--7 days before the conference. His proposals were the exact opposite of the Third World countries' demands. Even several developed capitalist countries, such as France, Japan and others, realize that a solution to these crises and these problems must be found and are showing a more cooperative attitude. They are more prepared to talk and to find solutions, but they run up against the intransigence of Mr Reagan, who has said that the best contribution he can make to the Third World is U.S. prosperity--which is based on unequal trade, on the exploitation of the Third World's natural resources, on exported inflation, on high interest rates and so forth--and that the development problems must be solved by private enterprise and the transnational companies, when private enterprise, capitalism, colonialism, neocolonialism and imperialism are the historical causes of the tragedy faced by the underdeveloped countries. In these two speeches and in statements by other Yankee spokesmen, the Reagan administration has spoken the final word.

For this reason, and although the results of the Cancun conference, which has just been held, cannot yet be evaluated, and as Tomas [Borge] has subtly reminded us, Mr Reagan gave himself the pleasure of arriving 13 minutes after everyone else was there--the almighty and indispensable gentlemen entered the room, making everybody else wait. [sentence as heard]

(?I say) it cannot yet be evaluated. The Mexicans have made a great effort. The least they expected was that awareness of the problems the world is facing would be developed. But as for any specific results from Cancun, we have read some reports that reflect a good deal of skepticism about them. Apparently the results have been limited thus far to vague promises by the United States as to a future willingness to hold international negotiations on these problems.

One would have to be really very optimistic to pin any hopes on those vague U.S. promises. The fact is that, at a time when it seems to be too late to look for urgent solutions, responses are being delayed once and for all and the world is inexorably advancing toward extremely difficult and dangerous problems.

Naturally, it would be very difficult for the U.S. Government to make any contribution to an international conference of this type, when it is primarily responsible for the huge arms race that is being unleashed in the world. For this reason, I repeat, the Yankees, the Yankee imperialists, are apparently conscious of these problems and the only formula they can come up with is to solve them through force, investments and atomic bombs.

Current issues always tend to grow worse and the existing ones are already dreadful. For example, we stressed at the IPU conference that the number of undernourished people in the world, with calories and protein below the required levels, is 570 million, there are 800 million illiterate adults; 1.5 billion people have no access to any medical care; 1.3 billion people have a yearly income below $90; 1.7 billion have a life expectancy below 60 years; 1.03 billion live in inadequate housing; 250 million children are not in school, and there are similar problems. The statistics on unemployment affect even the developed capitalist countries, but there are over 1 billion unemployed in the underdeveloped countries alone.

This is a truly critical situation, about which we should be informed and to which attention must be paid.

As regards our own case, I can say that we have problems too, since we are not living on some other planet. Not only do we live on this planet, but we are neighbors of the worst of this planet--Yankee imperialism. [applause] We are in danger and we are exposed to attacks. Therefore, as regards peace matters, we are not only exposed to the dangers that affect world peace but also to the dangers derived from Yankee imperialism's aggressive and threatening attitude against us. They hate us in such a way that I don't even know how to describe it. It could be called a donkey's [as heard] hatred. [laughter] I would call it a donkey's hatred, to make an association [applause] with the symbol that represents the party of the gentlemen who currently rule in the United States. They feel a murderous hatred against Cuba and we are proud of that hatred.

This gentleman, whom Tomas [Borge] mentioned earlier, this Mr "Buche" [reference to U.S. Vice President George Bush; in Cuba the word means rascal], a gentleman who has just made his appearance on the public scene but evidently thinks he is a great figure--there is no doubt about this--said in Santo Domingo or some other place that he had heard that I was very worried and very upset over his attacks against me. [applause] If he wants to reach the conclusion that he is important because he attacks me, well, that is his problem. Perhaps he feels he is very important because he attacks me. I have never thought of myself as being so important as to believe that those who attack me are important. However, this gentleman apparently believes it. [laughter] I know he was very mad.

This gentleman made an inglorious tour through Latin America, where everyone immediately protested the tariffs that the United States has just imposed on sugar. This happened in Brazil, in Colombia, in Santo Domingo, everywhere. The only thing I know about this gentleman, however, is that he is a former CIA chief. And since you can imagine the lack of scruples, morality and shame that characterizes that institution, you can also imagine who Mr Buche is. [applause] But I certainly could not care less. I have no idea who has put into his head the idea that I apparently can't sleep, eat or anything because he has made three or four hysterical statements against Cuba and against me. Really, I have had more important enemies than he, [laughter] enemies more deserving of being taken into consideration. He believes it, however, for someone has put this into his head. It is not fear on my part, but cretinism on his, [laughter] cretinism and hysterics. He is hysterical. He himself has brought this up, otherwise it would not be worth dedicating even the least time to this gentleman. As his only recommendation, suffice it to say that he is a former director of the CIA, the institution that carries out assassinations, sabotage, subversion, destabilizations and all that. Suffice it to say that about Mr Buche. [laughter]

We were referring, however, to the imperialists' hatred of us. We know very well why they hate us. We know it very well: They hate us due to Cuba's firm position, to our revolution's position of principles, to our people's firmness, to our people's courage, to the fact that they know that we do not fear them, [applause] to the fact that they know that we are not afraid of them. [applause] As one commonly says, they have simply lost their cool [han perdido la tabla]. They are very upset because they know we do not fear them. They can threaten all they want, they can do as their please. However, above all, we and the entire world know that we do not feel the slightest respect for them. [applause] They and the entire world know that this is serious. They are used to intimidating and to threatening. There are few in the world who dare tell imperialism all that it deserves because it [as heard] is such a powerful country, because it has many resources, it controls the IMF and the World Bank, and it constitues a market for a good many countries--some trade with it, some are expecting credit from the World Bank, others are awaiting a loan from the IMF, and so forth, some want to trade and fear that this trade might be taken away. However, since we are not in any World Bank or in any IMF, since we are a country blocked by Yankee imperialism, which does not trade with them, well, you might as well know, messrs imperialists, that we are the first country, the one with the most freedom in the entire world, to tell imperialism all that it deserves. [applause] There is no country in the world with greater freedom to tell imperialism the truth. This pains imperialism.

It pains it greatly. It pains them to see the firmness of the revolution, for they know that we are an unyielding and unwavering people. [applause] They have intensified their economic measures against us. They have intensified their blockade in order, at any cost, to hinder Cuba's activities and trade with other countries, as well as Cuba's obtaining of credits. They have, in short, intensified their blockade. They have adopted more stringent economic measures. Now, as I was saying earlier, we have our problems too. An important part of our trade, most of it, takes place with the socialist countries. The conditions of exchange are satisfactory.

It can be said that throughout the years of the revolution we have achieved a satisfactory trade relationship with the USSR and with the socialist countries. [applause] This is precisely what we are demanding as a solution for the underdeveloped countries in general. Our sugar prices in trade with the USSR and the socialist countries do not depend on the vagaries of the international market; they are stable prices, established for 5-year periods. If the prices of the socialist countries' products increase or if the USSR's prices go up, the prices of our sugar, nickel and other products also go up.

Conditions are not exactly the same with all the socialist countries; they are much better with the USSR, but they are good with the other socialist countries as well. Our prices are frozen--our sugar has one price and their products have another. Therefore, we maintain good trade relations and if imports increase in price, the price of our products increases as well. We have achieved good trade relations, which are helping us a great deal, particularly as we receive raw materials, machinery, equipment, essential products and basic foods from these countries.

Now then, an important part of our economy is still dependent on trade with the capitalist Western world; in other words, on trade with the rest of the nonsocialist area, which is guided by the principles of the so-called world market. Although the part of our trade that is with the Western world is minor it is important, because it sometimes involves complements we need to be able to use the raw material we receive from the socialist countries. If we receive 80 percent of our raw materials from the socialist countries and need to get 20 percent from the Western world, because the socialist countries do not have it, then we have to buy that much.

There are specific quantities of grain that we acquire from Western countries, because we sometimes have to purchase grains, raw materials, equipment, medicines, etc. from capitalist countries that are not developed. And in this Western area, our ability to buy depends upon the price of our products. Therefore, we need a specific amount of foreign exchange and that is basically dependent on our sugar exports. We also have tobacco, lobster, shrimp and the like, and we are trying to increase our exports. But this isn't easy, because when you begin to try to export manufactured products, you face competition, prices, credits and so forth from the highly industrialized countries. In other words, the diversification of exports is difficult, because if we decide to export refrigerators, radios, television sets and the like, we face strong competition from countries that have higher industrial development and all of the facilities for marketing--they control the markets and so forth. Therefore, the effort to diversify exports is not easy. And in addition, this effort must face the capitalist developed countries' protectionist measures and competition from the Third World.

For every penny's decrease in the price of sugar, the country's economy stops receiving $70 million in foreign exchange. At the end of last year, prices were above 30 cents [unit not specified] and we made a great effort in the sugar harvest, to take advantage of these high prices. But despite everyone's predictions, estimates and analyses, sugar has suffered a brutal drop--its price was 11.29 cents yesterday, almost a third of its price last year. To this we must add the constant increase in the prices of imported products, to which we were referring. I want to point out that during the past 22 years our country, just like other developing countries, had to take on debt to obtain convertible foreign exchange necessary to compensate, many times, for these brutal drops in the price of sugar. Now these credits and debts have to be paid and as interest rates have also inreased brutally--they have practically doubled--the interest rates for our foreign debt are much higher.

Now then, we have had a norm in our policy ever since the success of the revolution--and what I am explaining to you is very important, because the Yankees know about this. The Yankees know why the sugar prices dropped despite all estimates. One of the reasons was the policy of the EEC, which has benefitted from the agreement. In recent years, the sugar producers entered into an agreement to protect prices. They agreed on sugar export quotas. The prices even improved. However, the EEC didn't want to enter into this agreement. The EEC countries produce sugar that is subsidized by the state--I say this so that you can see what selfish and irresponsible policies are like--and increased their exports from 1 million to 4 million tons.

In other words, they refused to be part of the agreement, but they received the benefits without taking any of the responsibilities. They increased their sugar exports from 1 million to 4 million tons, drastically lowering prices and depriving underdeveloped sugar producing countries of thousands of millions. This measure not only has affected us, it has affected many sugar exporting countries. In the meantime, the United States established an import duty of more than 2 cents on imported sugar, which affected many sugar producing countries that export to the United States. This was one of the big complaints submitted to this gentleman on his tour of Latin America. With its selfish policy, the United States has also depri[illegible] underdeveloped countries that export sugar to the United States of thousands of millions of pesos, with its selfish policy.

Another factor has been the world's economic crisis. Many peoples and countries need sugar, but they simply do not have the money to buy it. The economic crisis is also affecting markets and prices in this respect.

The Yankees know these facts and difficulties. They even swell with illusions and hopes over the difficulties we are having and are going to have. Naturally, this forces us to make sacrifices and restrictions. If they asked us how much longer the Third World and developing countries, including the socialist countries like Cuba, were going to have difficulties, I wouldn't dare give a responsible answer. Problems are objective, no one can know when and how the world is going to overcome the crisis. No one. As I said before, no one has the answers to world problems for the next 10 or 20 years. We are going to continue struggling, working and developing. No one can responsibly predict that the road ahead is going to be easy.

You know that I have always told the truth to you, to the CDRs and to the people. [applause] Now, in our policy we have an obligation I want the people to share with us. Our priority obligation is that whatever the price of sugar, first of all, we must meet our international obligations, [applause] our financial commitments, because the country's credit is worth more than anything else. [applause]

We have two problems--the always latent and growing threats, and the threats affecting peace and the economy. They affect peace in two ways: the danger of a world war, and the threats of conventional aggression against us by the United States. There are people asking what is going to happen in the world. I ask myself the same question: What is going to happen in the world, if they decide to carry out an open aggression against Cuba?

Well, in first place, and what we should learn and have as a philosophy, is not to expect anyone to defend us, but first of all, to defend ourselves. [applause] What sort of revolutionaries would we be, we who stand by our principles, if we waited for others to defend us? We defend our principles above our own coat of arms [escudo]. We defend our principles above all with our own skin. [applause]

The imperialists are asking what is going to happen. I know what is going to happen. Hundreds of thousands of imperialists are going to die in this country. That I can assure you. [applause] If we cannot defend ourselves, we cannot expect to have anyone's solidarity. If we are able to defend ourselves, then, let us see what is going to happen. What is going to happen? History, and how each of us complies with his duties and responsibility to the Cuban revolution, will tell. [applause] The imperialists are talking about a complete blockade, among the arsenal of measures they are talking about.

Its all right, we will learn from a new experience and they will learn, too, [applause] because one thing we are sure of is that this country can resist a total blockade for as long as is necessary. [applause] There are plans about what we should do in the event of a total blockade. There are also plans about what we should do in case of a direct aggression. But most important, our first banner and our first slogan, arrogant imperialist gentlemen, is to say: We aren't the least bit afraid of you! [applause, followed by the audience's slogan: Fidel, deal a harsh blow to the Yankees] As you all know, after that fascist U.S. administration took office, we weren't the first to use strong words. We were cautious, we were moderate, as described by certain dispatches. On 17 and 19 April, we said that we left it up to them as to what tone they wished to use in dealing with us, whether they wanted to hold a dialogue and talk with us or whether they wanted to threaten us. It now seems that they chose to go the wrong way, so the only thing left for us to do was to tell them what they deserved. They have been making all of these threats. They are also threatening to intervene in Nicaragua, El Salvador and in Central America.

This fascist group is characterized by fascist methods, of course: first of all the lies; they use Goebbels lies; they use methods that must have been taken from a book; I think they copied their methods and theories from MEIN KAMPF. They use domination, arrogance, threats and lies. In terms of the Salvadoran incidents, we have seen many lies. Each time they said something, we never answered; we kept quiet, due to our contempt and because we don't have to account to them for anything. At a certain time, though, we felt that it was appropriate to give them a good and timely denial, because they were issuing a pack of lies. They would tell a lie today, another tomorrow and another one the day after, until we had to cut the spokesmen of imperialism short. They were saying that the weapons that Cuba was receiving for its defense were being redistributed in Central America. We didn't say anything, because it is not an issue of their redistribution. It all depended upon whether we wanted to redistribute them or not. We don't have to account for this to Yankee imperialism. [applause, laughter] We didn't want them to interpret our denial as moral acquiescence or to think that we thought it immoral. Of course, the weapons that we receive from the USSR cannot be redistributed by agreement, and we honor our agreement.

But they launched... since they know that a few ships arrive with weapons for the territorial militia troops [applause]--they are fully equipped--then they came up with the theory that we were receiving many tons of weapons and so forth. We are not going to tell them how many weapons we received, but we can tell them that there were indeed many. [laughter]

They then came up with the theory that we were redistributing them in Central America. This is a lie, a complete lie, because we were receiving the weapons in our country, for our own defense. However, they were saying this to justify the shipment of advisers and weapons to El Salvador, their intervention in Central America, and the like, in order to have a justification for congress. They knew this was a lie. A few days later, they again spoke hastily and said that we had military advisers in El Salvador. This is another great lie, but they went ahead and said it. Of course, they spoke this lie after the French-Mexican declaration, in order to complicate matters and to try to embarrass Mexico, France and other countries. So they said that we were sending weapons and military advisers to Central America.

Then they started to say that we were supplying weapons to the Salvadoran guerrillas. We replied to all of this at the IPU meeting, when we said that the Salvadoran patriots had been fighting for many months with their own weapons, with the weapons and bullets that they were taking from the enemy. We said that it was a moral thing, that it was just and proper to send them weapons and that if we did not do so, it was simply because there were no ways of doing it. This means we feel that it is morally just to send weapons, but we told the truth--we said that it was not true that we were supplying the Salvadoran patriots with weapons and ammunition. When the IPU meeting was held, we gathered the three denials: We are not redistributing the weapons we receive from the USSR in Central America; we are not sending advisers and we are not supplying any weapons.

They are complete liars; and when we said so to the imperialist spokesmen, they had no choice but to remain silent. They shut their mouths for a little while.

But then the secretary of state and an adviser to the almighty gentleman started talking, making all kinds of statements. It is typical of them to make many statements and to tell many lies; they are characterized by one of two things: They are either conscious liars or ignorant people and, in either case of course, they are cynical. [laughter, applause] Now they have changed their tactics. The spokesmen no longer speak; instead, they manipulate the news that they publish in the press.

Here is another big lie: [laughter] This is from the 19th, 3 or 4 days ago. According to this dispatch, two U.S. columnists reported today that Cuba has allegedly sent to Nicaragua between 500 and 600 elite soldiers for the purpose of dealing a blow at El Salvador's jugular vein and creating a revolutionary Marxist government in the eastern part of that country. Rowland Evans and Robert Novak, whose articles are published daily in hundreds of newspapers--you can see how these gentlemen's lies are spread throughout the world, while the denials are not, for this is how they operate, in a Goebbelian style, in a Hitlerian style, in a fascist style; this is how they make up their lies and make the U.S. people believe them. These men publish their articles in hundreds of papers and millions of people read their news; what they do not read are the denials. The denials are read only by a few governments, a few leading sectors. It is important to deny, but manufacturing the lie is what they care about [Castro returns to reading the dispatch] whose articles are published daily in hundreds of newspapers, provided all kinds of details on an alleged open invasion of El Salvador by Cuban troops. In doing this, they quoted impeccable Latin American sources--according to them, the sources were impeccable. According to the two newsmen, Fidel Castro has introduced a shock force in Nicaragua, in order to attack President Jose Napoleon Duarte's Salvadoran Government through the back door--as if he were the real Napoleon or something and one had to attack him through the back door and stuff like that; [laughter] as if this were some kind of Waterloo. [laughter]

According to the two newsmen's data and interpretation, the plan may be classically simple. It would seek to divide El Salvador in half at the Lempa River, in order to organize a provisional revolutionary government in the eastern part of the country, which would gradually obtain international support for the Revolutionary Democratic Front. This scheme, which may have already been put into practice with the destruction of the Oro Bridge last week, would be equivalent to yet another Cuban intervention abroad. According to Rowland Evans and Robert Novak, the United States should adopt other essential measures to prevent this. This is an exhortation to adopt measures against us, to attack us, to blockade us. The article implicitly suggests that the military aid given to the Salvadoran Government junta, including the dispatch of men, should be increased. The U.S. countermeasures should go much farther than the mere dispatch of 50 advisers, they allege. The article, which is long, adds some more data.

It says here: The soldiers, members of the special rapid intervention forces--they have even created a rapid intervention force for us--[laughter] which would be linked to the Cuban Interior Ministry, were dressed in civilian clothes, as if they were tourists, the columnists added. Their weapons, worked on by specialists, were concealed in what seemed to be tourist trunks and other normal luggage. The flights were made on 16, 17, 18 and 19 September. According to Evans and Novak, the Cuban ambassador in Nicaragua, Julian Lopez, also traveled on the last flight. The column adds that upon arriving on Nicaraguan soil, the troops boarded several helicopters that had been waiting for them and they disappeared into the jungle. [laughter] Exactly 26 days later, in the early morning hours of 15 October, the most important bridge over the Lempa River, which divides El Salvador in half, was blown up. [laughter]

Troops carrying weapons in their luggage were transferred, they boarded helicopters, they disappeared into the jungle and exactly 26 days later the bridge is blown up. It was no coincidence that on the very same day, another paper, the WALL STREET JOURNAL, said in an editorial that thanks to an alarmingly effective leftist propaganda campaign, President Reagan's administration has been largely frustrated in its efforts to obtain public support for launching a U.S. counterattack against the Soviet-Cuban conquest of Central America. In its editorial comment, the financial paper adds: Nevertheless, it is still too early to abandon the struggle. Further on, it says that if successful, the great prize of this allegedly Soviet-Cuban campaign will be the Panama Canal.

So this is their style. They make up lies, publish them in thousands of newspapers and disseminate them through international dispatches. This was explained here during the meeting of intellectuals and artists. The Yankee information monopolies control 70 percent of the world's information. Spreading all of this has an obvious purpose. The spokesmen no longer speak; instead, they manipulate some newsmen, to make them write these articles for an obvious purpose; to justify their intervention in El Salvador, to justify their threats and aggressive measures against Cuba. However, once again we have the pleasure of telling them: Mssrs imperialists, you are liars. You are liars. [applause]

We have no alternative but to deny this, because Cuba has not sent a single special forces soldier, or any other soldier, to Nicaragua. Cuba has never sent any troops to Nicaragua. That is a huge lie. We are not only entitled, but obliged to deny it. That is a complete lie, [laughter] from beginning to end. But what is the purpose of these lies?

During his tour through Latin America, the famous Mr Buche [George Bush] [laughter] also said something that Tomas [Borge] recalled earlier. Buche was giving advice concerning 5,000 advisers--for they speak of 5,000 advisers, and that is another lie. I wish we had not 5,000 advisers, but 5,000 doctors and teachers in Nicaragua. Yet they do not total even 3,000. About 2,100 of them are teachers and professors. Over 200 are doctors, construction workers and agricultural technicians, who make up the great majority of the Cuban personnel rendering internationalist services in Nicaragua.

This gentleman calls them 5,000 advisers. [applause] This gentleman impassively talks of 5,000 advisers in Nicaragua. In the same way, take a lady named Jeanne Kirkpatrick, or something like that. I believe she is the U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, who is noted for making hysterical statements. Of course, hysteria is always present in these fascist characters. She said that we had I don't know how many soldiers in Afghanistan. Just imagine that, they have even placed our soldiers in Afghanistan! They calmly say these things. I sometimes wonder if they are ignorant, foolish, stupid, cynical or what. Or are they all of those things? They lie so calmly. This lady puts our troops in Afghanistan. This gentleman talks of 5,000 advisers in Nicaragua, and so forth. Of course, these things have their purpose. It is to promote and encourage the counterrevolution in Nicaragua, aside from the CIA's objectives and its actions against the internationalist Cuban workers. This policy has the purpose of encouraging vile and cowardly murder, such as that committed against the two Cuban teachers in Nicaragua a few days ago. I sincerely believe that one of the most beautiful pages of international solidarity is being written by our teachers and doctors in Nicaragua. [applause]

We are proud to have men and women capable of doing this. I personally bid farewell to many of the companero teachers who go to Nicaragua and I know the job they are doing and under what conditions they are working, as Companero Tomas Borge has already spoken so eloquently about; how they live in the most remote places, under the most difficult conditions; where you sometimes have to walk 3 days or ride a mule for 2 days to get where you are going. You cannot imagine the worth of these companeros, these teachers in the most remote corners of Nicaragua. What is extraordinary about this is that the majority, or about half of them, are women teaching in that country. [applause] Many are housewives, who agreed to be separated from their children, husbands and families for a long time to go and serve there. I think they have extraordinary merit. [applause]

The imperialists will not say anything about these murders. They will not condemn them. When our country is serving as an example of what should be the duty of all of the world's countries, which is to cooperate with one another, to fight diseases and illiteracy; when, on behalf of mankind, we offer absolutely selfless cooperation, then we are, these men and women, subjected to imperialist slander. Those teachers are not there to teach Marxism-Leninism, and the Nicaraguan families know this very well. They are there only to teach the school programs and subjects assigned them by the education minister of Nicaragua. This is their task. On few occasions has a more beautiful page has been written. The imperialists will not write editorials, or make propaganda, condemning this shameful crime.

What are the imperialists protesting? Ah, they protest against the Sandinists' arrest of a few bourgeois for violating the laws of Nicaragua. About this, yes, protests are pouring in, and you can see reports and criticism. When it has to do with an imperialist pharisee, with a traitor to the causes of the revolution, then you have universal imperialist protests. But when two humble teachers, who are carrying out the extraordinary and beautiful task of teaching Nicaraguan children, are murdered, there is not one word of disapproval or protest. This is the attitude of the imperialists. We can say here that by the hands of Cuban teachers and thanks to them, 100,000 Nicaraguan children are receiving an education. [applause] The Cuban teachers are teaching 100,000 children. [applause]

To kill teachers is one of the most heinous and repugnant crimes that can be committed in today's world. But this is not new for us. We remember Conrado Benitez and (Delfin Sen). We remember the literacy campaign, when they hung peasants and literacy teachers. By our own experience, we know the extent of imperialist hatred, the CIA's lack of scruples, the vileness of the counterrevolution and reactionaries. That is why we are prepared to assimilate these bitter experiences.

We trust in the Sandinist revolution and its ability. We know that those crimes will be punished, as they were in our country. We also know that they are taking all necessary measures to protect our teachers. [applause]

They can intimidate neither the Nicaraguan people nor the Cuban people with their actions. [applause] The same day that the murder of these teachers became known, the number of students who enrolled in the teachers detachment tripled. [applause] Thousands of teachers have volunteered to fill the position of the two teachers who fell, [applause] who enhanced the ranks of our fatherland's martyrs, because they were like soldiers, dying in combat, dying in the fight against illiteracy and ignorance. They wage this struggle with pencils, notebooks and books, not with arms. One has to be extremely cowardly and vile to kill men in these circumstances. [applause]

That is what these campaigns are good for. The only thing lacking is a report by the Yankee newspapers that they were two soldiers; that they were not teachers, but two of the special soldiers who recently landed. I think that these facts demonstrate the lack of scruples of the enemy we are facing. They enlighten us as to the struggle that must be waged by our people, the Cuban people, the Nicaraguan people, all of the peoples as they liberate themselves. This is how the Angolan people must act now, after so many years of struggle for their independence, fighting against the South African racists, victims of the aggression they carry out, in connivance with Yankee imperialism. This is the path toward freedom. It is a long path, the path of dignity, justice and revolution.

Now then, in facing these military-type risks, in facing this threat, we are prepared. A tremendous effort has been made in organizing the militias of territorial troops, in strengthening our revolutionary armed forces. We have not stopped working, preparing and improving our defenses for a single minute. The effort and the costs are high, but I am sure that the country would never forgive itself for neglecting its defense in case of an imperialist attack. Therefore, attention to the country's defense takes priority under any circumstances.

However, we must also be prepared to face economic woes. In the first place, we must apply the reforms to retail prices. This step is independent of the overall economic situation about which I spoke previously, but it is linked to the salary reform.

By virtue of the salary reform. 2.4 million workers have received salary increases. The total amount this year will be 440 million pesos. It will reach 540 million in 1982 and will total 2.7 billion during the 5-year period. This includes income resulting from the salary reform and bonuses--I understand this includes bonuses to the workers.

When the salary reform was proposed, it was explained that a price reform would have to be carried out. Why? Because money in circulation is being increased by 2.7 billion pesos during the 5-year period. The reform of retail prices was necessary for two reasons: First, to partially offset the effects of the salary reform and, second, to make our prices more rational.

As will be recalled, when the salary reform was announced it was explained that some retail prices would be revised. In GRANMA's issue of 25 March 1980, it was said in this respect: As is known, despite the inflationary process that has taken place throughout the world in the last few years, which produces a particularly negative impact on an open economy such as Cuba's, retail prices of staples have been kept frozen at the level of the early years of the revolution, to keep family finances from being burdened; this requires heavy state subsidies, which work against the necessary equilibrium of internal financial forces.

The salary reform will make it possible, concurrently with its implementation, to study this situation, in order to put certain price increases into effect on the retail market. However, the amount will be lower than the increase in salaries.

We also discussed this matter in the report to our party's second congress. On that occasion we said: Although the price reform will entail an overall increase in the population's expenses, it will be substantially lower than the increase in income resulting from the salary reform and the payment of bonuses to workers, which are already in the process of implementation. The problem is that we have delayed for some time in implementing this reform. The salary reform was implemented prior to the changes that had to be made in prices. We have delayed for several months and this situation cannot be prolonged. Otherwise we would run the risk of wallowing in money, with very negative consequences on labor discipline and on the economy. We have to try to maintain what is called financial equilibrium. If we neglect this, the consequences will be negative. In view of this economic situation, we must not postpone this step any longer. We must make the changes in retail prices before the year's end. As is explained here, they will cover an amount that is substantially lower than the income being received because of the salary reform.

Naturally, the cases of pensioners, retirees and social security beneficiaries who are not benefiting from the salary reform will be taken into account to keep them from being affected. The amounts are not substantial but we must do this. This is implicit in the implementation of the salary reform. Therefore, some prices are going to be changed but we expect them to remain within our reach. [applause] A portion of the 2.7 billion to be received as salaries will be compensated by the price reform, another portion by savings, we hope. As I also told you, this will be combined with measures of a restrictive nature we must adopt. Some programs, plans and investments will have to be sacrificed in some way. However, we must confront this situation in every way. I explained it broadly before. It stems from the factors that have been pointed out and is fundamentally related to the drop in sugar prices. We must be prepared for this. We must be prepared to make sacrifices and we must abide by our inviolable and sacred principle of meeting our international commitments first of all. [applause]

Now then, this demands a special effort from us. As we said last year, we made a great effort at harvesting time. Even if last year we did not carry out the most efficient harvest in the history of our country, we did not fail to make an effort. These difficulties are arising precisely at a time when our country is doing the best work in the entire history of the revolution, when our workers are working with utmost efficiency, enthusiasm and discipline, when the enterprises, the economic sectors engaged in agriculture, harvesting and construction are working more efficiently than ever. These difficulties of an external nature are appearing at a time when we have made considerable progress in establishing the economic management and planning system, when we are beginning to reap the initial benefits of the changes we have made, when our people are really working better and more efficiently.

We have had to tell the planning offices that, according to estimates, the available resources amount to so much and estimates must be very conservative because, in addition, sugar is now quoted at 11.39 [currency not specified] but nobody can assert that its price will be 8 cents within 3 months. It may even drop. The situation may be even more difficult still. We have had to recommend to the planning, to the economic offices, to adjust their plans and activities to this situation. We will lack some raw materials. We will lack some resources. In other words, we must not be surprised. This will affect several types of production. However, we must confront this situation.

This also forces us to continue making efforts to improve efficiency, to continue applying the economic management and planning system regardless of how difficult conditions may be. This forces us to be more efficient and thrifty than ever. Every drop of oil or gram of fertilizer, steel, fabric of all raw materials must be used more efficiently. We have to try to be most efficient or to make agriculture most efficient. We must go on scoring the successes and achievements we are obtaining in sugarcane cultivation, livestock farming and agriculture in general. In a nutshell, faced with circumstances of this nature, we must make a maximum effort in regard to services, education, medical care and all activities to show how our people can tackle any situation regardless of how difficult it is.

As I told you, the imperialists know we are going to face these difficulties and they harbor hopes and illusions. They think that the embargo of 22 years is going to yield some results at last. No. The embargo of 22 years has been harming us for 22 years. However, it has not kept us from doing what we have done, or prevented achievements which are unprecedented feats.

The feat of granting jobs to virtually our entire population, of putting an end to loitering [tiempo muerto], vices, gambling, drug addiction, prostitution, illiteracy; of reaching the sixth grade level as a minimum, of struggling for ninth grade, of having virtually the best level of public health among all of the world's underdeveloped countries... all the achievements we have scored and will continue to score and promote have not been and will not be prevented by the embargo. The difficulties will not keep us from continuing to advance. However, what is important and necessary is to count on the understanding and full support of the people. [applause]

That is the most important thing. The imperialists have false hopes. The imperialists are intensifying their economic blockade against Cuba, blocking our economic efforts and our credits. The imperialists are increasing their espionage activities inside and outside our country and increasing their efforts to establish contacts and to obtain defections among diplomatic personnel, among technicians, in everything. They are increasing their activity. They are increasing their subversive activity.

The imperialists will undoubtedly return to their conspiratorial methods, to their assassination plans, to the sabotage of the economy and to the assassination of leaders of the revolution. Several times we have asked the all-powerful indispensable gentleman to say if the CIA is going to once again be authorized to plot assassinations of leaders of the revolution. Silence is their answer. They have not said a single word. Perhaps they even think that we are afraid and that we are going through life shaking, thinking that they want to kill us, the leaders. Perhaps that is what they think. However, we have learned to defend ourselves. Our security organizations have learned to work well, very well. [applause] It won't be so easy nor do they make us tremble.

When we ask them to say whether they are once again going to use these methods, it is to confront them with their moral responsibility, it is so they will speak, so that they won't remain silent because the entire world knows about their misdeeds and their past and we demand that they speak and we demand that they give an explanation. However, we are not afraid even if they organize 100,000 plans. We definitely know how to defend ourselves and we don't have any worries in this regard.

It is very probable that the imperialists will resort to the dirtiest methods of sabotage as they did in the past and are doing in the present. We have to continue protecting ourselves and taking special measures against bacteriological warfare. We have to be ready and take all necessary precautions and follow all instructions to the letter. In short, we have to be prepared even for atomic war. What can we do? Well, to die honorably is a good way to behave and act. [applause] Imperialist gentlemen, we don't have atomic weapons but we aren't afraid of atomic weapons. The imperialists are going to increase their subversive activities. Recently, in the most barefaced manner possible and with the greatest cynicism they announced the future establishment of an official U.S. Government radio station aimed against the Cuban revolution. One has to be cynical, immoral, and shameless to propose the idea of establishing a station in U.S. territory to carry out a campaign against the revolution, to try to subvert and destabilize the revolution.

One has to be cynical. One can't think of a more vulgar and brutal way of intervention in the domestic affairs of another country. They say that it is so our people will be informed. Our country is now struggling for the ninth grade; it is capable of reading, writing and thinking. Compare the information that our country had when it was controlled by the Yankee imperialists with the information and the conscience that our country has today. Of course, this measure will not remain unanswered. [applause] To carry their cynicism to even greater heights they have baptized the supposed radio station as Radio Jose Marti [murmur from the crowd] as an offense, an insult against our people. Apparently they do not know--and if the poor little things do not know, how can we censure them for it--how can we ask them to have read Marti, when these gentlemen have not even read their country's constitution, nor Washington, Lincoln, Jefferson, or anyone. How can we ask Reagan, Bush, Haig if they have read Marti? Or all of Reagan's advisers? How could they know that Marti said that he knew the monster because he had lived in its entrails? [applause] How should they know that Marti some days before his death said that all he had done, all his life and all he would do would be to prevent the extension of U.S. domination over our peoples of America? How can these shameless persons use the name of Marti so cynically and barefacedly. That is up to them. That is their business. We will vindicate the names of the real U.S. patriots because Marti does not only belong to us. Marti is ours. Marti is of the revolutionaries. But also Washington, Abraham Lincoln and all the U.S. revolutionaries belong to us. [applause] We do have the right to speak not only of Marti but also of Lincoln and Washington. They had great morals because they were liberators of peoples but these are oppressors of peoples; they are warmongerers, reactionaries. Marti's name will not be stained. It is so great that it won't be stained by even the mouths of the Yankee fascists. [applause]

We shall continue to honor Marti precisely by being worthy followers of Marti; worthy children of Marti [applause] by being revolutionaries like him and, like him, willing to die for the fatherland. [applause]

This is another Yankee mistake, and they certainly will have enough time to realize it. Besides, it is not wise for people who live in glass houses to throw stones, since it is very fragile glass, at that. We have had, still have and will have difficulties, but the U.S. people are having growing difficulties and they are going to suffer great economic and social difficulties. Unemployment is mainly affecting the black population of the United States where a very high percentage of its youth are jobless. That imperialist country cannot solve these social problems because 9 months after the Reagan administration assumed power and when that country expected a miraculous economic boom, it is, instead, facing a recession and a drop in its production. The administration, in fact, had to admit its failure to cope with inflation while unemployment has increased and now it faces a recession.

They have tried to launch this type of aggression against us. Let them not forget that we are not in Europe or Asia, that we are here, very near the U.S. coasts and our radio waves can also reach them, there. [applause] We shall see who can resist the most; we shall see who, we or they, are the strongest morally and politically. [applause]

Let the imperialists not mistake our people for that scum we gladly allowed to leave the country. Here we not only have a tough-fighting adult population but we have a new generation, whose revolutionary spirit and intransigence were evidenced in the victorious marches of the people. Here we have a new generation of Cubans, of whom the two murdered teachers are a worthy example, as well as the more than 2,000 teachers and over 200 medics now in Nicaragua, and the tens of thousands of internationalist workers serving in over 30 countries, and the more than 100,000 fighters who have served in international missions. They are all worthy examples of our people. [applause]

Once again the imperialists are mistaken about our people. We shall not stop fulfilling our international commitments. Our internationalists will not stop fulfilling their duties. [applause] We shall not fail in our duties toward the socialist community, the underdeveloped nations and the Third World. We shall not stop struggling, reporting the truth, reporting the hardships of our peoples, reporting the dangers that threaten world peace because of the arms race, poverty and underdevelopment.

We shall not renounce our ideas of international cooperation; we shall not give up our position that all nations, independent of their social regime, must work together if we truly want to preserve peace and mankind. Our duties as a civilized people shall be fulfilled. We are determined to do so. We do not want a conflict merely for the sake of a conflict; we do not want a confrontation merely for the sake of a confrontation.

In contrast, there is the other conduct, the revolutionary conduct, the Marxist-Leninist conduct, the determination of the revolution to defend our ideas, our socialist system and our right to defend our principles at any cost and under any circumstances. The imperialists are mistaken if they think our people will lose heart. [applause] If it is necessary to make the same sacrifices of the early years of the revolution, we shall make them again, and even greater ones. [applause] If it is necessary to make the sacrifices of our liberation war, we shall make them again, and even greater ones. [applause] If it is necessary to make the sacrifices our Mambises [name that Spanish colonialists gave to Cuban rebels] made, we shall make them again, and even greater ones. [applause] Our history, our independence, our revolution, our socialism and our progress were written with heroism and struggle. We are determined to write it as often as necessary, even though it may need the effort not only of one generation, but of two, three or four generations of Cubans. [applause] Let the imperialists know that the Cuban people shall live with their revolution or die to the last man and woman alongside of it. Fatherland or death, we will win! [applause]

Valdes Address

FL231401 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 23 Oct 81

[Text] In a speech during the afternoon session of the second congress of the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution [CDR], Commander of the Revolution Ramiro Valdes, member of Cuba's Communist Party Politburo and minister of the interior, asserted that a cornerstone of the ministry's work is the close relations existing with the CDR. The Cuban leader referred to the numerous tasks of the Interior Ministry which have had from the very beginning the cooperation of all CDR members, and in that respect he recalled the slogan: Our strength is the people's strength.

Machado Ventura, Perez Herrero Addresses

FL240214 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 24 Oct 81

[Text] The second congress of the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution [CDR] continues to sit today at Havana's Palace of Conventions with the participation of more than 1,500 delegates and many foreign guest delegations. The morning session was chaired by the second secretary of the party and minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces [FAR], Army Gen Raul Castro, who addressed the meeting. Discussion of the main report continued, it was approved unanimously. Special appearances were made by alternate Politburo members Vilma Espin, Senen Casas Regueiro and Roberto Veiga, who highlighted the working ties of the CDR with the Federation of Cuban women, the FAR and the Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions, respectively. The greetings from the mass organizations, the Union of Young Communists and the FAR were conveyed to the best among the CDR masses this morning.

The afternoon session was chaired by Politburo member Jose Ramon Machado Ventura, Antonio Perez Herrero and national CDR Coordinator Armando Acosta -- the last two, alternate members of the Politburo. Jose Ramon Machado Ventura, in a special address, spoke of the functioning and inner life of the CDR. Antonio Perez Herrero also spoke, noting the mobilization capacity of the CDR to engage in extensive political and ideological work among the masses. He cited as examples of this work the days in April and May 1980 when all the people, in tight combative march, walked through the streets of our towns to make clear their repudiation of the scum abetted by the reactionaries. The peoples of Czechoslovakia, Ethiopia, Hungary, Kampuchea and Laos sent their warm greetings to the CDR delegates. The resolutions approved by the first CDR congress were also read at the afternoon session. They were unanimously approved. Nominations to the national directorate were made and voted on.

Espin, Veiga Addresses

FL232305 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 23 Oct 81

[Text] The third work session of the second congress of the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution [CDR] was held today at the Palace of Conventions. It was chaired by Army Gen Raul Castro Ruz, second secretary of the party. Also present were Armando Acosta Cordero, alternate member of the Politburo and national CDR coordinator, as well as other Politburo members.

The morning session was conducted by Juan Quiros of the CDR Executive Secretariat. It was characterized by the frequent participation of the delegates to support the main report and make proposals to raise the level of CDR work in the coming (?years).

Vilma Espin, alternate member of the Politburo and president of the Federation of Cuban Women [FMC], reiterated the firm alliance between the FMC and the CDR in undertaking any task assigned by the revolution. Vilma spoke today at the morning session of the CDR to convey warm greetings to the delegates. She listed the most important tasks carried out jointly between the FMC and the CDR, such as vigilance, study circles and their joint commitment to make the people's government assessment meetings successful. In concluding, Vilma said that the imperialist enemy is afraid of Cuba. She said that the reason for this fear is the strength of the people, also demonstrated at the CDR congress.

The last special address was delivered by Roberto Veiga, alternate member of the Politburo and secretary general of the Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions [CTC]. Veiga began his speech by asserting that the blood of the teachers murdered by Somozist gangs will help to forge the everlasting, solidary and internationalist ties that bind the Cuban and Nicaraguan revolutions. Veiga also referred to the multiple tasks carried out by the CDR and the CTC and noted that the two organizations will enthusiastically undertake the forthcoming Red Sunday -- 8 November -- in honor of the October revolution.

Tomas Borge Speech

PA250402 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0148 GMT 25 Oct 81

[Speech by Nicaraguan Interior Minister Tomas Borge at closing ceremonies of the second congress of the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution in the Karl Marx Theater in Havana -- live]

[Text] Companero and dear Brother Fidel Castro, commander in chief of the Cuban revolution, companeros of the presidency, Cuban companeros:

Many years ago, along with Carlos Fonseca, we were in the square where Fidel Castro asked the Cuban people to organize in the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution [CDR]. Since then this powerful organization has developed in number and quality.

In Nicaragua, the Sandinist Defense Committees [CDS] were formed during the war and already constitute, the same as you, a headache for which there is no analgesic for the enemies of the revolution. [applause]

It is no coincidence that the CDR and the CDS are virulently attacked. In the same way, it is no coincidence that during the literacy campaign the counterrevolutionary gangs assassinated many brigade members in Cuba and in Nicaragua. It is no coincidence that Cuba has been isolated as there are efforts to isolate Nicaragua. Nor is it a coincidence that the U.S. newspapers and their submissive repeaters in Latin America say that Nicaraguans and Cubans blew up the bridge over the Lempa River in El Salvador. It is no coincidence that the discredited organization of the CIA, the IAPA, attacks Nicaragua in the same terms with which it has attacked Cuba. It is no coincidence that the representative of the well-known Paraguayan clown, Stroessner, desperately asked for the intervention of the Yankee marines in Nicaragua. History is repeated.

George Bush, I think that is the way it is pronounced, asked the Sandinists in a hypocritically conciliating tone a few days ago to rectify their political positions or better said that it is time to rectify them and that only if this is done will they be able to grant us a $35 million loan which in addition would be destined for the Nicaraguan private enterprises. As a condition, Bush asked us to stop being revolutionaries, to stop being anti-imperialistic, to stop being internationalist, to stop being friends of Cuba, in other words to sell ourselves for a few dollars more. It is good to take advantage of this occasion to tell Mr Bush that we Sandinists will continue to be revolutionaries, we will continue to be anti-imperialists, we will continue to be internationalists, we will continue to be friends of Cuba and that we Sandinists never sell ourselves or surrender! [applause]

The assassination of the Cuban teachers and the Nicaraguan peasants is also not a coincidence. The leaders of the rightwing in Nicaragua, faithful interpreters of the U.S. aggressiveness, patiently and cold-bloodedly prepared this crime. For months they have been saying through all means that the Cubans live in the best houses, that they travel in the most luxurious cars, that they are exhausting the Nicaraguan food reserves, that they preach foreign doctrines and other things, mixing the bad taste of common places with the cynicism with which the enemies of the people usually express themselves and which you, of course, already know from experience.

The Cubans know it but we want to reiterate here respectfully and emotionally that the Cuban teachers and doctors, that the Cuban internationalists who work in Nicaragua do so in the most isolated, rough, unhealthy and difficult regions, under the rain, sleeping in huts, bitten by mosquitos, suffering incredible hardships with the infinite happiness of having done their duty. The assassinated teachers were not like their detractors living in comfortable houses or spending their nights in discotheques. They bravely died with their clothes illuminated by the sweat and the mud of the roads while their cowardly detractors daily show the irritating whiteness of their Christian Dior shirts and the feminine softness of their idle hands.

Nicaragua doesn't pay a single cent to the Cubans. The only thing that we Nicaraguans emotionally and respectfully pay the Cubans is our infinite gratitude for all they have done for our fatherland. [applause] This campaign began during the national literacy campaign when an individual named Alfonso Robelo who has his belly in Nicaragua and his heart in the United States, described that splendid and historic birth of literacy as a campaign destined to domesticate the peasants. Within this same context, although committing a stupid and challenging illegality, the spokesmen of the Higher Council of Private Enterprise [COSEP] recently published a communique in which they consciously violated the economic emergency law. We had prior reports that through the advice of their masters, they had planned to stage acts of provocation which would violate the revolutionary laws in order to measure the degree of firmness and determination of the Sandinist government.

The revolution promulgates laws so they will be fulfilled. The spokesmen of private enterprise now know the degree of firmness and determination of the Sandinist revolutionaries and they are now in jail waiting to be tried by the courts of justice. [applause]

The disrespectful, provocative and illegal communique was not the result of coincidence either. It was issued shortly after the FSLN National Directorate made a public appeal for national unity and for the patriotism of the entire nation to face the threats and aggressions of the Yankee empire. It came shortly after the Nicaraguan revolutionaries and the Salvadoran patriots carried a mature and responsible message to the United Nations through Commander Daniel Ortega, issuing a call to peace and the political solution of the conflicts in the Central American region. How have our enemies, the enemies of mankind and their servants, replied? They have ignored the proposals of Nicaragua and the Salvadoran patriots, replying aggressively with the small voice of Napoleon the ridiculous, howling like rabid dogs in their news media, repeating lies and slander and instructing their representatives in Nicaragua to worsen the country's economic situation and to provoke the revolutionary justice, encouraging their armed gangs to assassinate Nicaraguan patriots and Cuban internationalists, carrying out provocations on the border, showing their dirty and criminal fangs.

To the maturity, seriousness and responsibility of the revolutionaries, they reply irresponsibly. To the request to take the conflicts to the negotiations table, they reply with an incredible arrogance. But of course, the imperialists and their stepsons usually arrive late in everything and not only at the international conferences. We Nicaraguans replied to the Yankee military maneuvers with the largest anti-imperialist mobilization ever in Central America. To the boasts of Napoleon the ridiculous, the Salvadoran patriots replied with crushing military operations. To the assassination of the Cuban teachers and Nicaraguan peasants we have replied with a tenacious and implacable persecution. Twelve hours after the murder, two of the murderers were killed. We promise here before the Cuban people as through Commander Carrion [Nicaraguan deputy interior minister] we committed ourselves to the Nicaraguan people, to wipe from the face of the earth that gang of murderers and to face with implacable energy the masterminds of that crime! [applause]

Companeros, many minutes of silence have been held, filling with just anger and sorrow our two peoples, in homage of those who died. We will not ask for another minute of silence. We will not be silent a single minute. But yes, there will be many minutes of people's ire. Perhaps in the near future there will be many minutes of calls to the battle stations for our peoples surrounded by lakes of saliva and blood. Once again the imperialists arrive late but not as the result of their arrogant and brutal discourtesy. Instead, because history marches like a spirited and graceful horse through Latin America. The imperialists arrive too late because the Latin Americans have replied to the philosophy of terror with the philosophy of revolutionary firmness and heroism. [applause]

Not only does the blood of Sandino and Fonseca and of the Sandinists who died in combat now flow through the arteries and veins of our Nicaraguan land. With the blood of the Cuban teachers in communion with the blood of two Nicaraguan patriots falling upon Nicaraguan land, we can say that through those arteries not only does the blood of Sandino and Fonseca flow but also that of the guerrillas of the Sierra Maestra, of the heroes of Playa Giron, the blood of the immortal Mambises [name that Spanish colonialists gave to Cuban rebels].

Nicaragua and Cuba are no longer united only by the mutual respect and love of our respective peoples but also by that indispensible bond of blood. Cuba and Nicaragua, and along with them the peoples of Latin America, march to the future with their formidable mass organizations, with their peoples' armies, united by reason, wisdom and justice. Those who try to detain that march have arrived and will always arrive too late. [applause]

Companero Cubans, Companero Fidel, for our flags in mourning, full of blood, for our flags full of dignity, for the blood of Cubans and Nicaraguans, for the land of Marti and Maceo, for the land of Sandino and Fonseca, let us shout Cuban and Nicaraguan companeros here: Free fatherland [audience shouts: "or death"]. Fatherland or death [audience shouts: "We will win"]!

Awards Ceremony

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[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of Cuba's Communist Party [PCC] Central Committee, has presided at a ceremony held to present the 28 September Medal to 52 leaders and outstanding members of the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution [CDR] from all parts of the country. The CDR National Executive Secretariat awards the 28 September Medal to Cuban citizens in recognition of their outstanding work in the fulfillment of CDR tasks over an extended period of time or for having contributed to the development and strengthening of the organization and doing outstanding work in the struggle against the enemies of the revolution and in the defense of our socialist fatherland.

The ceremony took place at the Protocol Hall of Cubanacan. Among those receiving the award were Armando Acosta, alternate member of the PCC Politburo and CDR national coordinator, and Maria Teresa Malmierca and Alfonso Hodge, national vice coordinators of the CDR.